

HIT COMICS

Starring
STORMY
FOSTER
THE
GREAT
DEFENDER
Don Glory
The
RED BEE
Betty Bates
LION BOY
Hercules

Nº 21
APRIL
10^c





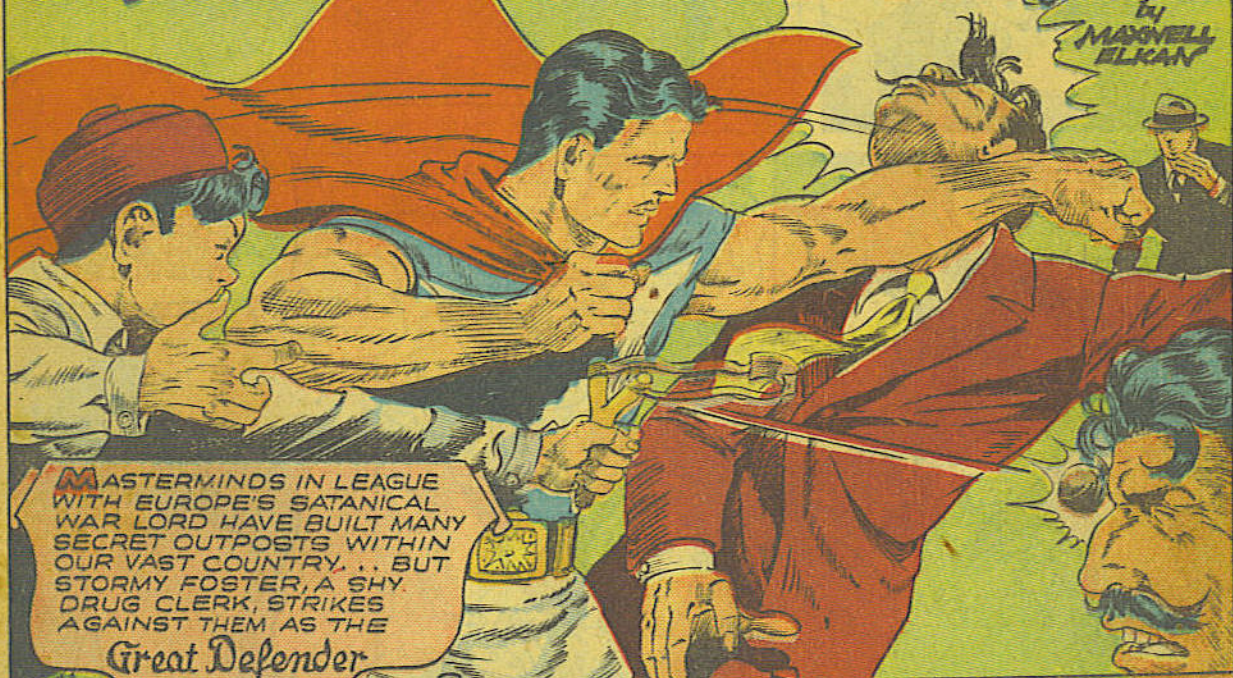
WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM



Stormy FOSTER

THE GREAT DEFENDER

by
MAXWELL
ELKAN



SHOTS FLASH FROM A BLEAK CASTLE ON THE BARREN CANYON RIM ABOVE DEATH VALLEY, CALIFORNIA. . .



AND BULLETS RAISE PUFFS OF ALKALI DUST PERILOUSLY CLOSE TO AN AGED PROSPECTOR.

AIN'T BEEN A SOUL IN KING KORMAN'S CASTLE FOR YEARS. . . BUT THEM VARMINTS ARE TRYING TO KILL ME!



AT THAT MOMENT, MANY MILES DISTANT, DR. VAUGHAN GIVES HIS CLERK A PACKAGE OF MEDICINE.

LUKE TAYLOR'S PLACE IS A MILE BEYOND KORMAN'S CASTLE. YOU'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE, I HOPE, STORMY.

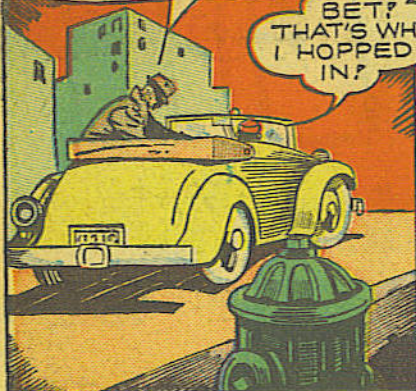
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, DOC. I'LL BE BACK BEFORE SUNDOWN?



STORMY FINDS THE ERRAND BOY WAITING IN THE CAR..

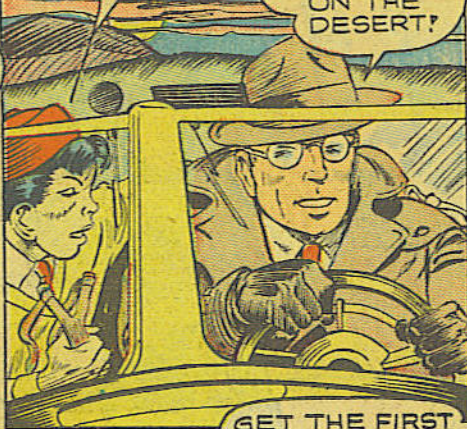
IT'S YOUR DAY OFF, AH CHOO, SO YOU CAN RIDE WITH ME TO DEATH VALLEY?

YOU BET? THAT'S WHY I HOPPED IN!



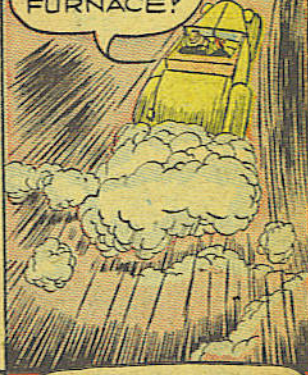
SUPPOSE I CAN SHOOT JACKRABBITS WITH THIS SLING SHOT I MADE?

I DOUBT IT, AH CHOO.. RATTLESNAKES ARE THE ONLY CRITTERS YOU'LL FIND ON THE DESERT!



SOON, THEY REACH THE VALLEY OF THE DEAD.

NOW WE'RE HITTING NINETY FIVE, BUT THE BREEZE IS LIKE THE BREATH OF A BLAST FURNACE!



HOLD TIGHT..I'M STOPPING..THAT FELLOW IS HURT.. OR PERHAPS..



SNIPERS GOT ME FROM THE CASTLE.. OOOH

GET THE FIRST AID KIT, AH CHOO.. THIS MAN HAS A BULLET WOUND?

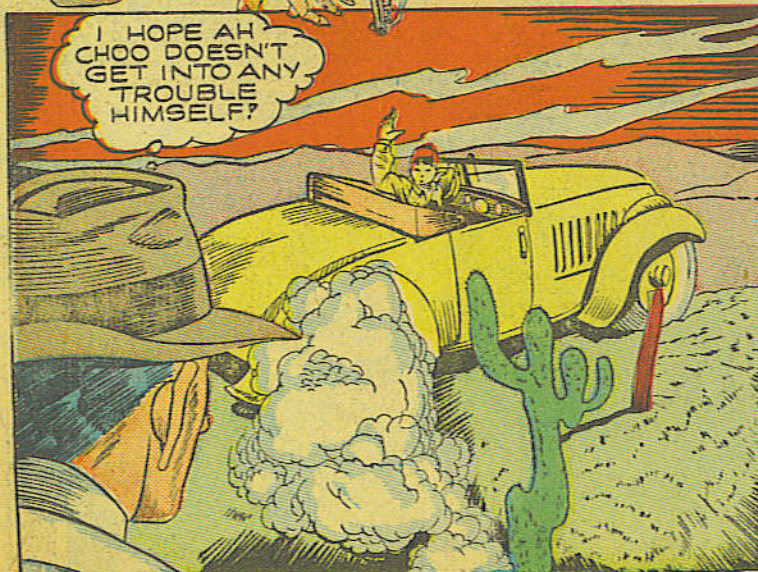
GEE.. BE CAREFUL, STORMY?



IT'S NO USE..HE'S DEAD NOW. TAKE THE CAR AND DELIVER THIS MEDICINE. I'M GOING UP THE CANYON AND FIND THOSE KILLERS!



I HOPE AH CHOO DOESN'T GET INTO ANY TROUBLE HIMSELF?



DON'T WANDER AWAY, OL' GAL.. AH CHOO WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU..NOW I'M GOING AFTER THE BUZZARDS WHO KILLED YOUR MASTER?



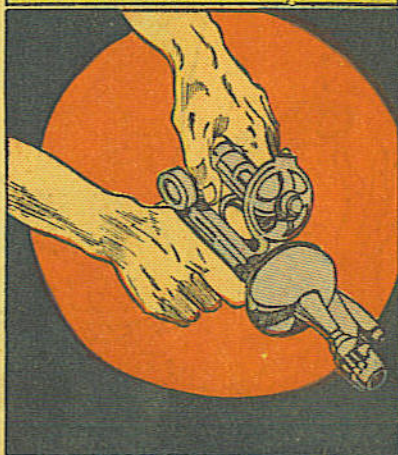
THEY'VE OPENED FIRE ON ME, BUT I CAN DODGE THEIR SHOTS AND MAKE A QUICK CHANGE UNDER THIS CLIFF.



LUCKY I BROUGHT ALONG MY KIT.. BUT I WONDER IF THOSE OUTLAWS HAVE HEARD OF ME.



THE GREAT DEFENDER FORTIFIES HIS BODY WITH A SUPER VITAMIN CAPSULE AND LOADS HIS STRANGE GUN WITH PARALYSIS GAS TUBES.



LEAPING INTO THE OPEN, HE FINDS PERILOUS FOOTHOLD ON THE CANYON WALL..

WHEN THOSE KILLERS OPEN FIRE AGAIN, I'LL GIVE 'EM THE BUSINESS!



MEX! LOOK AT THE QUEER MUG TRYIN' TO CLIMB UP HERE. HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT.

RIGHT!.. 'CAUSE I'M DRAWIN' A BEAD ON HIM!



THROW DOWN YOUR GUNS!

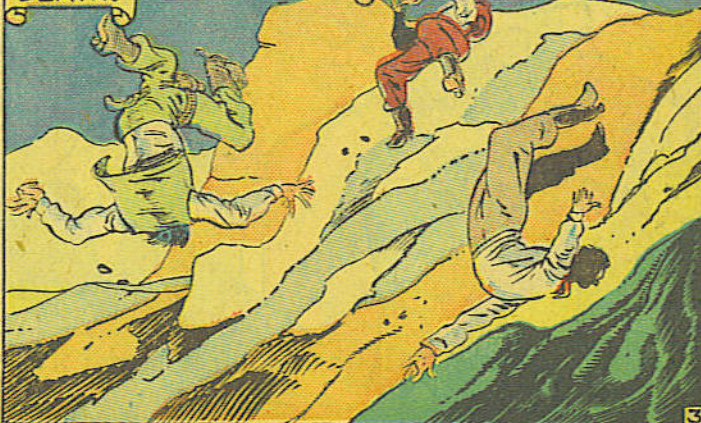
HE'S TOO QUICK! I CAN'T HIT HIM!



A DEEP BREATH OF THIS GAS WILL CHANGE YOUR MINDS!



ONE BY ONE THE FORTRESS GUARDS STUMBLE AND FALL TO CERTAIN DEATH.



THERE GOES THE LAST ONE! NOW I'LL FIND THEIR LEADER!

IN COMMAND OF THE CASTLE IS COUNT MANFRED VON GREBE, A RUTHLESS PRUSSIAN ENGINEER. .

HIDE, BEHIND THE GATE, JOSE, AND SLASH YOUR MACHETE THROUGH HIS NECK!

SI, I KEEL HEEM, QUEEK!

ACHTUNG! MY GUARDS COULDN'T STOP HIM!

LYING IN WAIT FOR ME! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO MIX SOMETHING MORE EXCITING THAN COUGH SYRUP?

THAT GATEWAY MAY BE AN AMBUSH! I'LL USE THIS FENCE RAIL TO SURPRISE THEM!

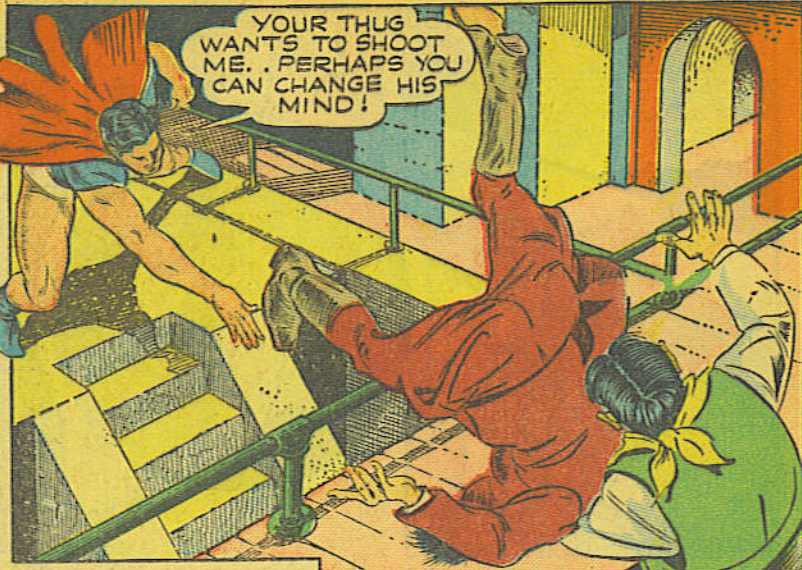
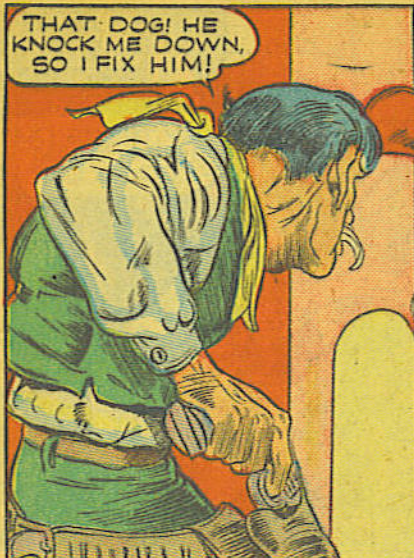
WERE YOU EXPECTING ME, MY OVER-STUFFED TAMALE?

THE GREAT DEFENDER AGAIN SHOOTS HIS DYNAMITE RIGHT. .

DON'T TOUCH ME, YOU YANKEE IDIOT!

WHY NOT? YOU LOOK LIKE THE BOSS OF THIS HIDE-OUT!

SPLAT



BUT COUNT GREBE AND THE MEXICAN SCRAMBLE UP QUICKLY!



HURRY, CHIEF HE'S TRYING TO BREAK IT DOWN!



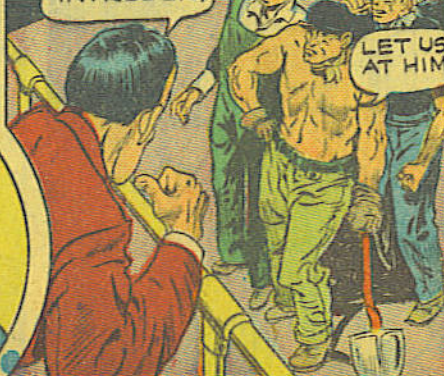
I CAN'T DO THE IMPOSSIBLE, EVEN AS THE GREAT DEFENDER! BUT I'LL FIND A WAY INSIDE!

COUNT GREBE RUSHES UPON THE WORKERS WHO OPERATE HIS SECRET DYNAMOS. . .

YOUR WAGES IN GOLD WILL BE LOST UNLESS YOU DESTROY THIS STRANGE INTRUDER!

WE'LL KILL HIM, CHIEF!

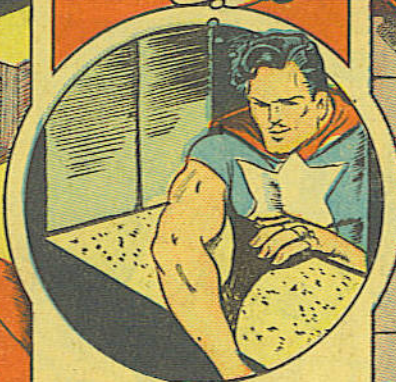
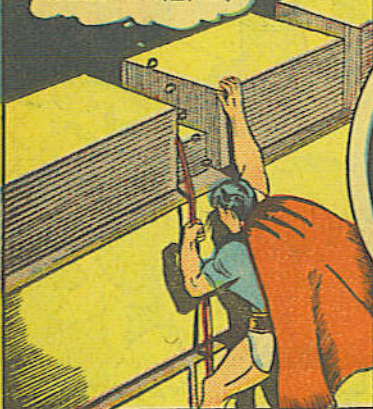
LET US AT HIM!



BUT THE GREAT DEFENDER
TAKES A SHORT CUT OVER
THE WALL. . .

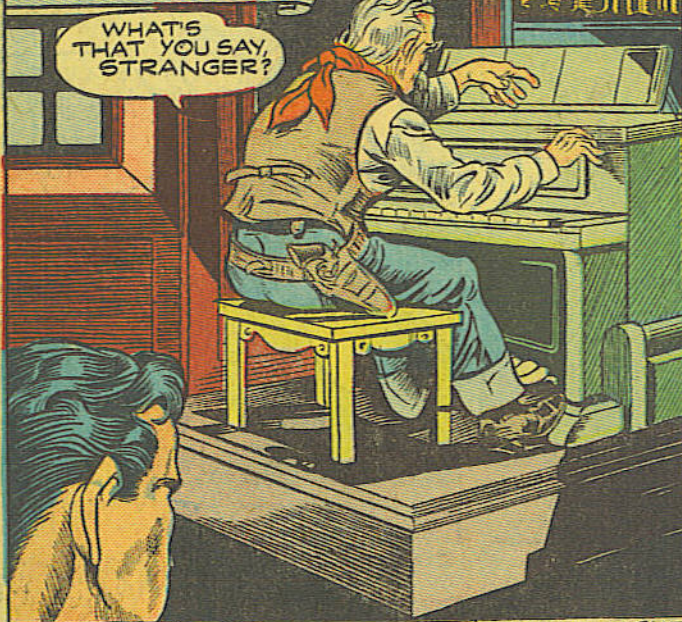
SURE ENOUGH..
AND OF ALL
THE STRANGE
SIGHTS..

THERE SHOULD
BE A WINDOW
BELOW HERE!



A GNARLED, WIZENED OLD PROSPECTOR
IS PLAYING A COWBOY BALLAD ON AN
IMMENSE PIPE ORGAN.

WHAT'S
THAT YOU SAY,
STRANGER?



I'M LOOKING INTO
A CASE OF MURDER!
WHAT DO YOU
KNOW ABOUT IT?



MURDER IS A COMMON
THING TO KING KORMAN
ER.. THAT'S ME.. BUT
SINCE I LEASED THIS
CASTLE TO A FOREIGN
FELLA WHO'S MAKIN'
LECTRICITY FROM
THE NATURAL STEAM
WELLS, IT'S BEEN
PURTY QUIET 'ROUND
HERE!

THE POOR OLD
GUY IS SLIGHTLY
DAFFY.. I'D
BETTER TRY
THIS DOOR!

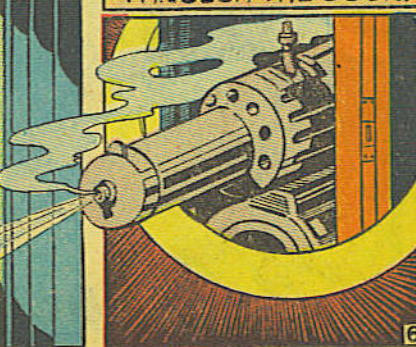
LOCKED TIGHT!
JUST LIKE
THE ONE
UPSTAIRS!

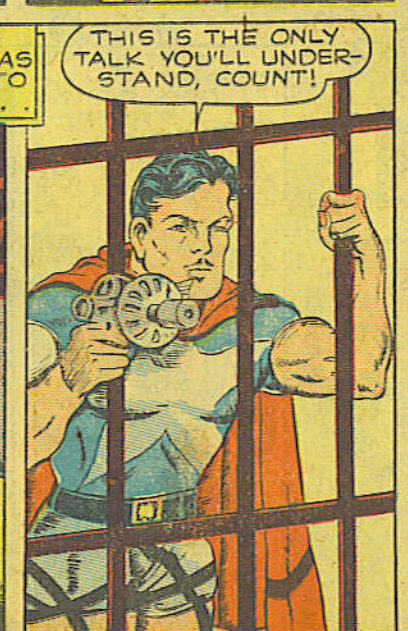
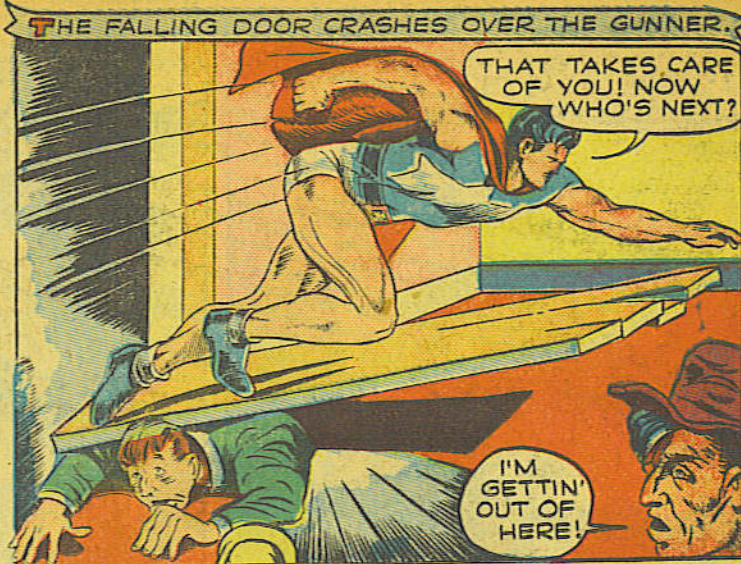
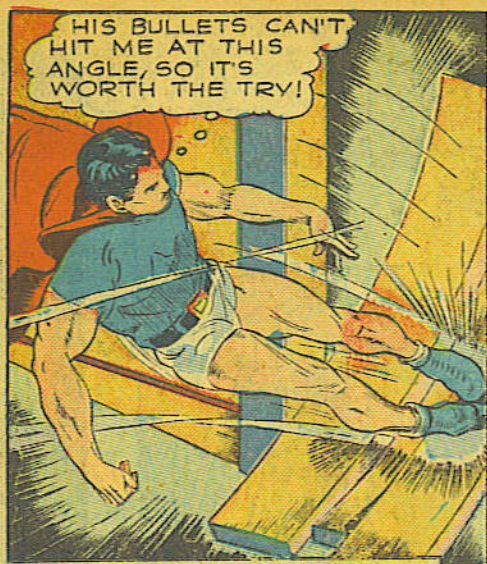


NOW, HOW
DID THAT
TUNE GO?..
OH, YES!

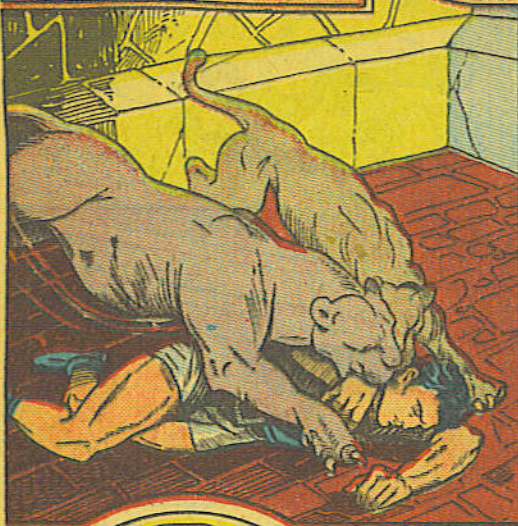


AN INSTANT LATER, A
MACHINE GUNS FLAM-
ING SNOUT COMES
THROUGH THE DOOR.

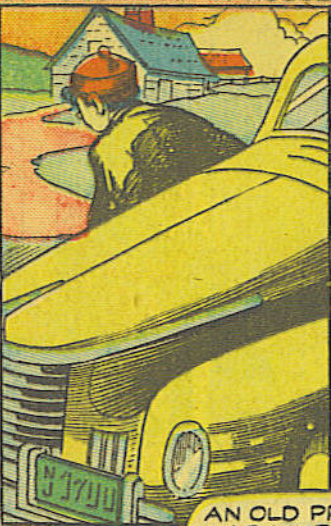




BUT THE SNARLING CATS
ATTACK TOO QUICKLY.



MEANWHILE, AH CHOO STOPS BE-
FORE AN ADOBE RANCH HOUSE.



YOU FROM DOC
VAUGHAN'S DRUG
STORE? COME
RIGHT IN, BOY!



SAY! YOU'RE
PURTY YOUNG
TO DRIVE A CAR!
I THANK YOU
KINDLY FOR
BRINGIN' MY
STUFF. BUT
WHERE'S
STORMY?

GOSH!
I'D BETTER
WARN
HIM!

AN OLD PROSPECTOR
WAS MURDERED
DOWN THE ROAD.
STORMY WENT UP
TO THE CASTLE
AFTER THE
KILLER!

GREAT
SCOTT BOY!
HE WON'T
COME OUTTA
THERE ALIVE!

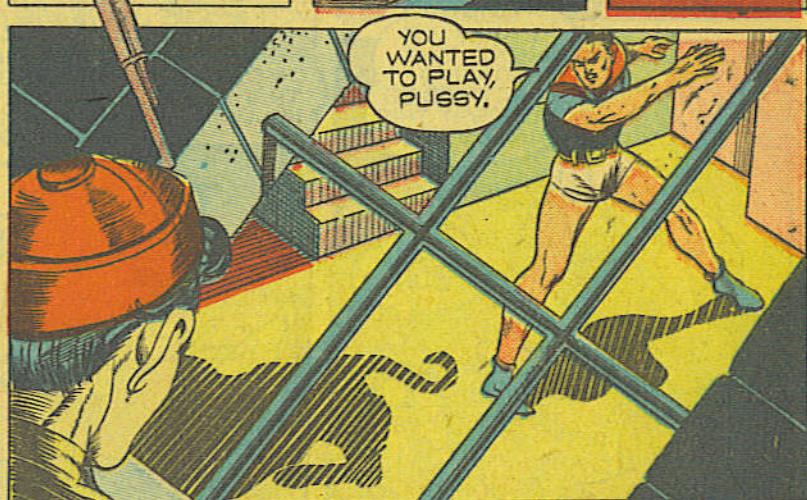
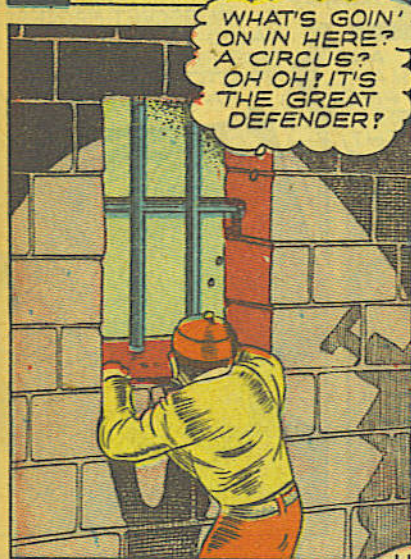
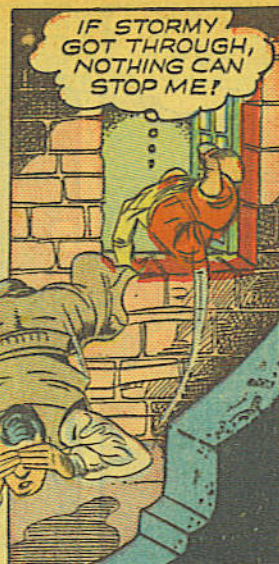
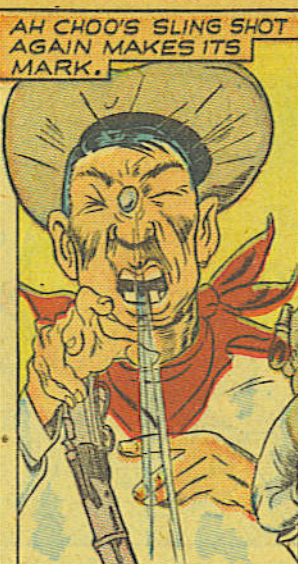


HUH? WHAT'S
THAT KID
DOIN' DOWN
THERE?

AH CHOO'S WAY IS BARRED BY A GUARD
AT THE CASTLE'S ONLY ENTRANCE. . .

LUCKY I TOOK
SOME TARGET
PRACTICE!





DOES HE THINK
I'M GOING TO
STAY ON THE
SIDELINES?

THE GREAT DEFENDER LEAPS
OVER THE DEAD PUMAS TO
PURSUE COUNT VON GREBE.

BUT HIS QUARRY SLAMS A DOOR
AND SLIPS IRON BARS INTO
PLACE.

HE'LL NEVER
GET THROUGH
HERE!

I SHOULD HAVE
WARNED AH CHOO
TO STAY AWAY!

HURRY,
KARL? WE
NEED THE
LIGHTNING
ELECTRODES
TO FIGHT THIS
INTRUDER!

JA?
JA, COUNT?

VON GREBE JOINS HIS
FOREMAN.

WE MUST KILL ANY-
ONE WHO INTERFERES, HANZ.
THIS PLANT PRODUCES FIVE
MILLION KILOWATT HOURS
PER MONTH!

BY MY SECRET PROCESS
RADIO WAVES CARRY
THIS POWER TO ARMS
FACTORIES IN OUR
FATHERLAND!

IF HE COMES
NOW, WE'RE
READY FOR
HIM!

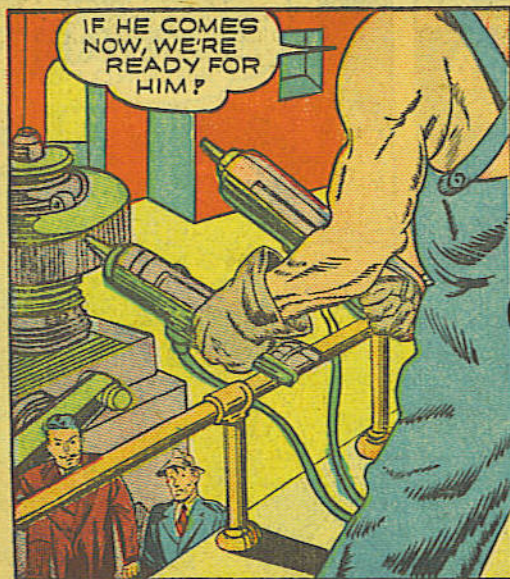
MEANWHILE, AH
CHOO'S SLING
SHOT IS AGAIN
BEING USED TO
GOOD EFFECT.

BUT THE GREAT DEFENDER
SURPRISES THEM FROM
BEHIND.

YOU WOULDN'T
BE LOOKING
FOR ME WOULD
YOU?

HOW..

THIS WILL STOP
HIM
DEAD!



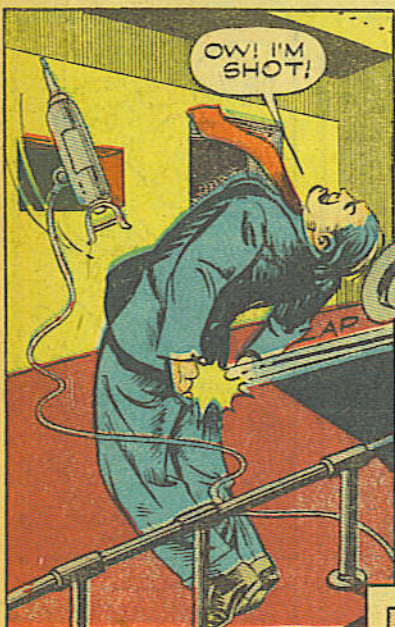
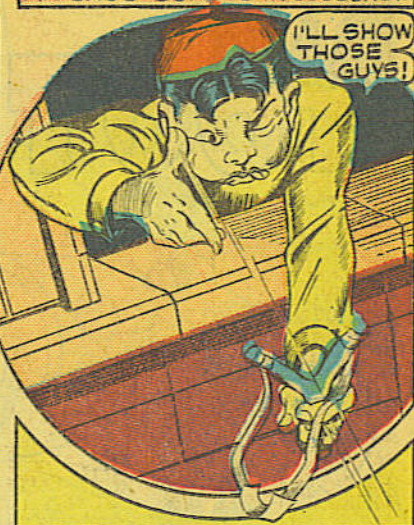
THE GREAT DEFENDER IS TOO QUICK FOR THEM...



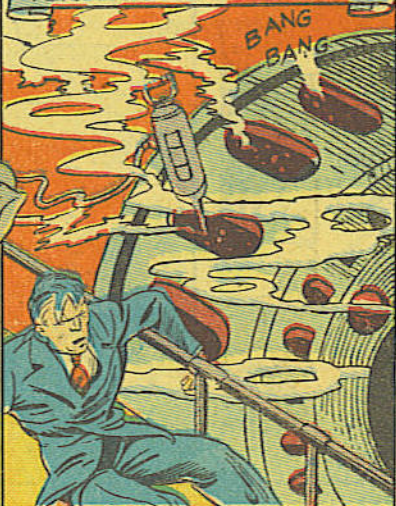
BUT HANZER TWISTS OUT OF HIS GRASP AND SNATCHES UP THE ELECTRODE.



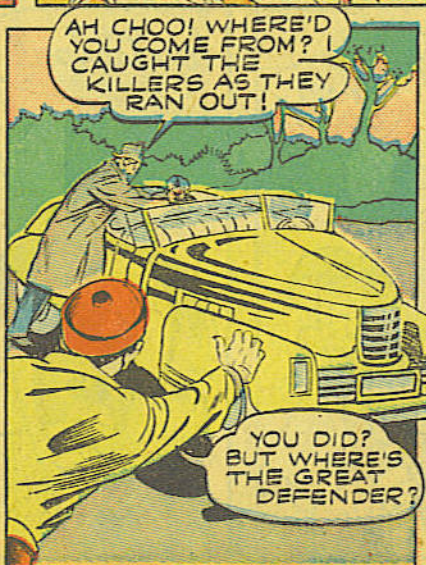
AH CHOO BURSTS IN SUDDENLY.



THE ELECTRODE STRIKES A GENERATOR AND CAUSES A TERRIFIC SHORT CIRCUIT.



SIZZLING SPARKS AND LIVE STEAM MAKES THE CHAMBER AN INFERNO...



WAS HE THERE TOO? HMM! THAT'S STRANGE... WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?



STORMY FOSTER AGAIN BECOMES THE GREAT DEFENDER TO BATTLE AMERICA'S MOST SINISTER ENEMIES IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF

HIT COMICS







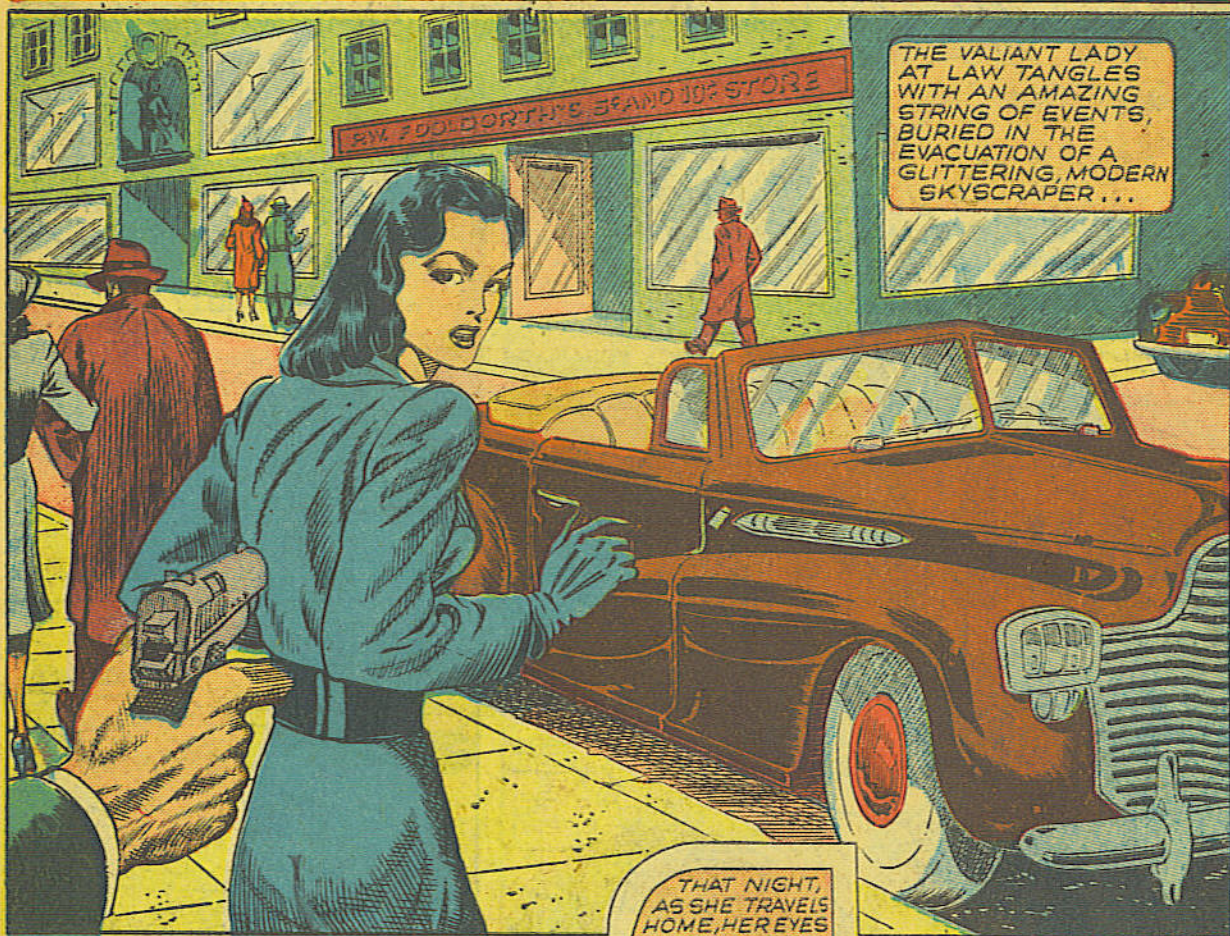






BETTY BATES

Lady at Law by Stanley Charlot

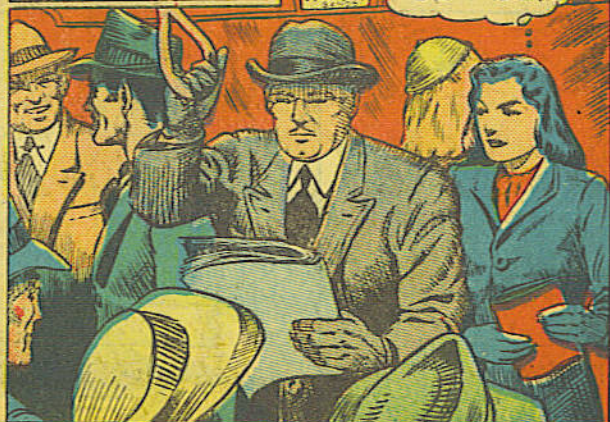
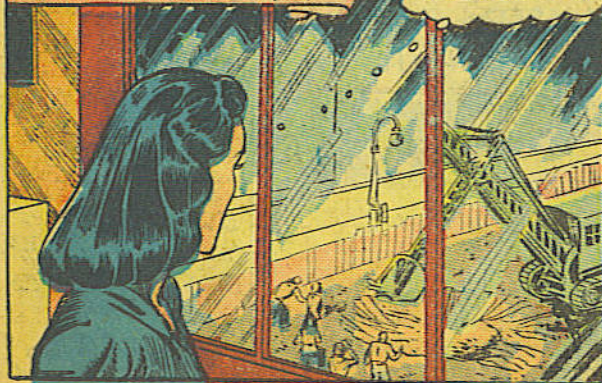


FROM HER LAW OFFICE, HIGH IN A SKYSCRAPER, BETTY WATCHES MEN WORKING ON AN EXCAVATION FOR A NEW BUILDING.

THE WHISLER BUILDING! IT'LL BE THE TALLEST IN THE COUNTRY!

THAT NIGHT, AS SHE TRAVELS HOME, HER EYES FOCUS IN AMAZEMENT ON THE HEADLINE SPREAD OVER EVERY PAPER.

WHY... BUT THAT CAN'T BE TRUE!



DAILY B
BANKER'S SON MISSING!
 STORY ON PAGE 1

JOHN H. HOLDES
 MISSING FATHER
 IS FINANCING THE
 CONSTRUCTION OF NEW

SOON, THE LIMP BODY
 IS PLACED IN A
 HOSPITAL CAR.

BUT THE NEXT MORNING..

WHAT'S ALL THE
 EXCITEMENT
 AT THE EX-
 CAVATION?

A YOUNG MAN, DRESSED IN
 LABORER'S OVERALLS, LIES
 IN A DITCH..

CALL AN
 AMBULANCE,
 QUICK!

AND BETTY, FAKING HER
 WAY AS THE VICTIM'S SISTER,
 GOES TOO.

WHISLER
 BUILDING? THEN
 THIS MUST BE JOHN
 HOLDES! AND I HAPPEN
 TO KNOW THAT DODE
 VAN HUYSEN IS THE
 HOLDES FAMILY'S PET
 ENEMY?

AT THE HOSPITAL, SHE WAITS
 FOR THE YOUNG MAN'S
 FIRST WORDS.. SUDDENLY..

..HAD TO DO IT...
 ON MY OWN...
 PROVE TO DAD I
 WAS RIGHT... DODE
 VAN HUYSEN OUT
 TO WRECK WHISLER
 BUILDING..

SO, I'M OFF TO
 SEE DODE
 VAN HUYSEN!
 MAYBE HE'S
 BEHIND ALL
 THE BUILDING
 TROUBLE
 WE'VE BEEN
 HAVING
 LATELY?

BUT AS SHE STEPS OUT OF THE HOSPITAL DOOR, A LONG, LEAN FIGURE DARTS BEFORE HER.

COME WITH ME, SISTER, QUICK? AND QUIET?

OH? DODE VAN HUYSEN!



YOU'RE SO SMART, I WANT YOU TO TEACH ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT THE BUILDING BUSINESS?

THEY SPEED OUT OF TOWN VIA THE SPEEDWAY ROAD, BOUND FOR THE ROLLING UPSTATE HILLS.

YOU'RE PAYING ME A PERMANENT VISIT?

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, MR. VAN HUYSEN?



REACHING HIS VAST ESTATE, VAN HUYSEN HELPS HIS "GUEST OUT.

PLEASED TO MEETCHA? JUS CALL ME MOE?

MEET YOUR BODY-GUARD, MISS BATES?



MOE WILL KEEP YOU COMPANY UNTIL I COME BACK?



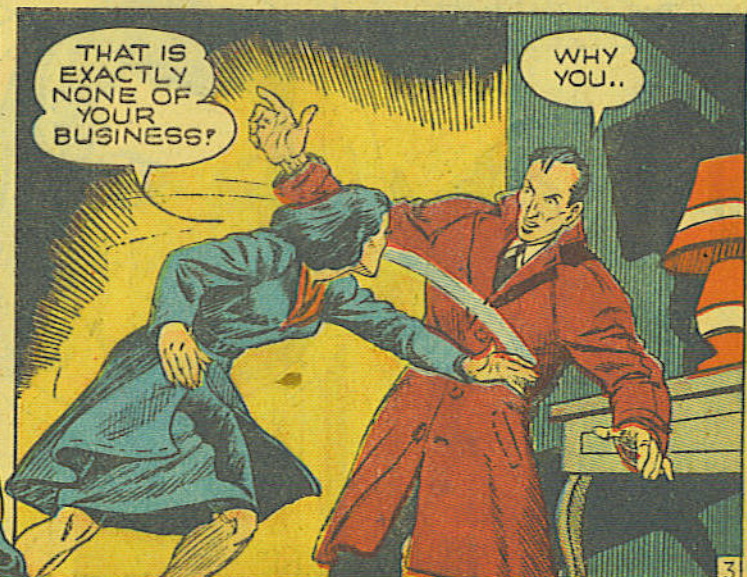
SOON, VAN HUYSEN RETURNS AND...

START TALKING WHERE DO YOU STAND IN THIS HOLDES AFFAIR?

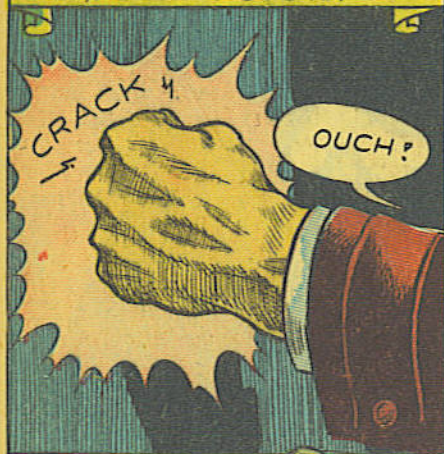


THAT IS EXACTLY NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS?

WHY YOU..



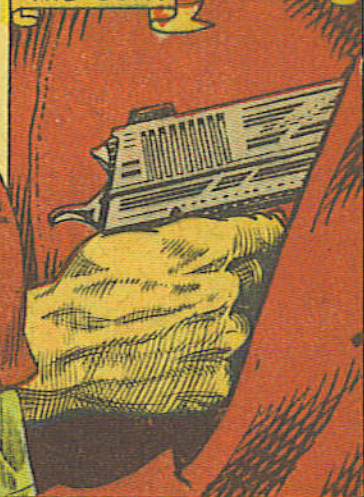
IN FURIOUS RETALIATION, VAN HUYSEN PUTS ALL HIS STRENGTH INTO A SINGLE BLOW.. BUT HIS KNUCKLES CRACK INTO A HARD WALL, AS BETTY DUCKS.



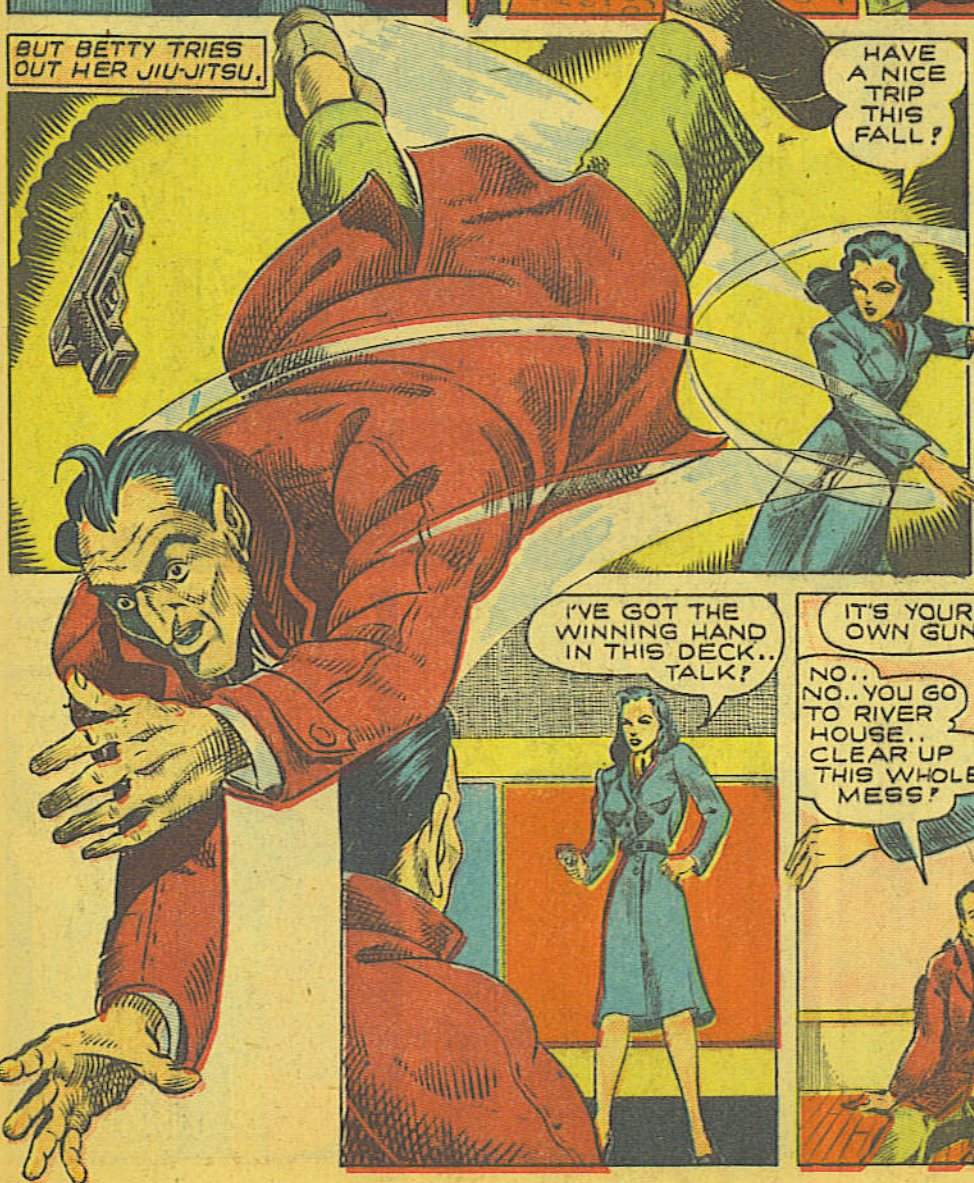
SEIZING THE SECOND OF OPPORTUNITY, BETTY SENDS A STINGING KICK TO VAN HUYSEN'S SHIN.



HOWLING IN ENRAGED PAIN, HE REACHES FOR HIS GUN.



BUT BETTY TRIES OUT HER JIU-JITSU.



HAVE A NICE TRIP THIS FALL?

A FEW MINUTES LATER, DODE VAN HUYSEN COMES TO.. A BIT WORSE FOR WEAR.



I'VE GOT THE WINNING HAND IN THIS DECK.. TALK?

IT'S YOUR OWN GUN?

NO.. YOU GO TO RIVER HOUSE.. CLEAR UP THIS WHOLE MESS!



LEAVING HER VICTIM TO NURSE HIS BRUISED KNUCKLES, BETTY GOES INTO THE YARD... BUT...



INSTANTLY, SHE STOPS THEM IN THEIR TRACKS WITH A HAIL OF LEAD.



SHE'S SHOOTIN' LOCO!



SCRAMBLING MADLY TO SAFETY, THE BODYGUARDS STUMBLE INTO A CACTUS ROCK GARDEN.



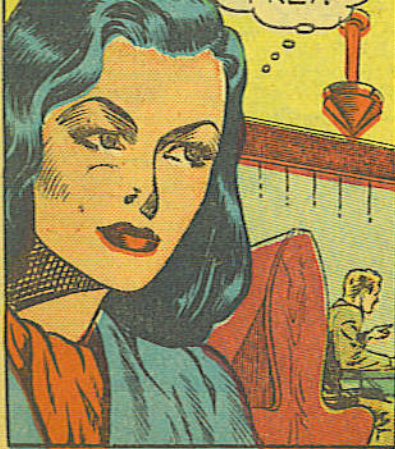
BETTY HOPS INTO VAN HUYSEN'S CAR.



A FEW MILES DOWN THE ROAD STANDS THE FAMOUS INN VAN HUYSEN DESIGNATED.

FIRST I'LL CALL THE POLICE..

NO TELLING WHAT CAN HAPPEN AROUND HERE... I SEE TWO MEN NOW WHO LOOK LIKE MY PREY!



QUETLY, BETTY HEADS FOR A PHONE BOOTH.

POLICE? EXPECT TROUBLE AT THE RIVER HOUSE... SEND OVER A FEW MEN?

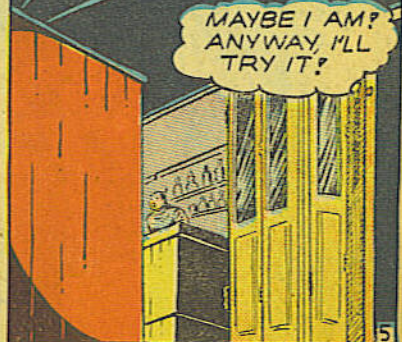


THAT WAS DODE'S CAR COMIN' IN, BUT A DAME GOT OUT!

MEANWHILE, THE SUSPECTS KEEP ON TALKING..

HMM... WONDER WHERE HE IS? MAYBE THE MOLLS HIS MOUTHPIECE?

MAYBE I AM? ANYWAY, I'LL TRY IT!



HOPE THEY TAKE
THIS ACT FOR
THE REAL THING!

HELLO,
GENTLEMEN!
DODE SENT
ME... SAID IT
WAS TOO
DANGEROUS
TO COME
HIMSELF?

OH.. WELL.. HELLO
YOURSELF.. TELL
DODE EVERYTHING'S
FIXED TO WRECK
THE WHISLER
JOB.. AND THE
HOLDES FAMILY
WILL GO
BANKRUPT?

WE BUMPED HOLDES' SON
OFF. HE GOT WIND OF
WHAT DODE WAS DOING
SO HE TRIED TO FIX IT ON
HIS OWN. SO...
HE TOOK A
JOB ON THE
WORKS?
WELL, DODE'S
GOT SWEET
REVENGE
ON HOLDES
SR.!

BETTY GETS UP FAST AND
SLAMS THE TABLE IN THE
THUGS' FACES...

THANKS,
MEN! THAT'S
ALL I WANT
TO KNOW? I'M
WORKING FOR
HOLDES, NOT
DODE?

WHY YOU...
SO HELP
ME, I'LL...
THE
COPS!

YEAH? DON'T
TAKE MORE
CHANCES. THE
JIG IS UP, IT'S
TOO LATE
TO SCRAM!

SEVERAL MONTHS
LATER, THE BEAUTIFUL
NEW WHISLER
BUILDING REARS
ITS GLISTENING
SPIRE TO THE SUN.

OH, JOHN,
IT'S BEAUTI-
FUL!

AND IT
NEVER
WOULD'VE
BEEN BUILT
AT ALL, IF
NOT FOR
YOU?

BETTY BATES
PLAYS ANOTHER
STAR ROLE IN
HIT
COMICS
NEXT ISSUE..

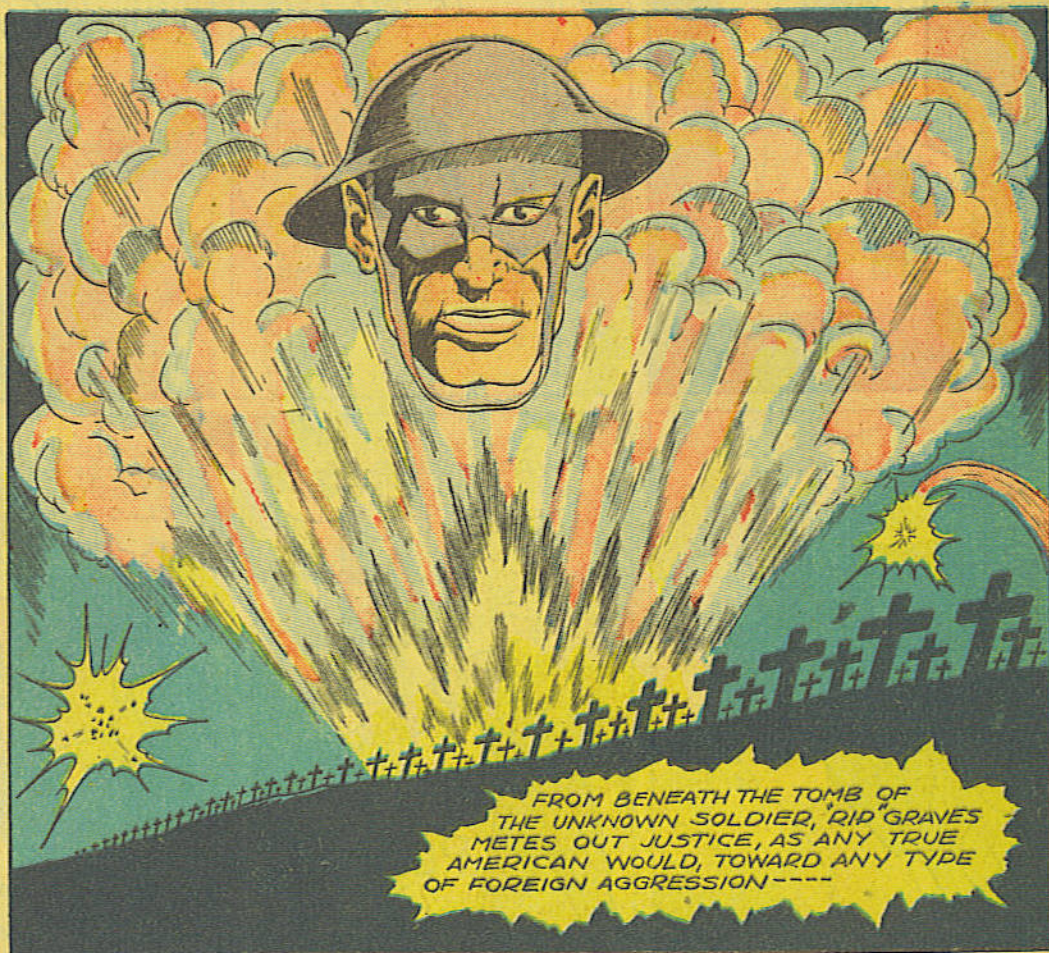


G OF FLANDERS

H O S T

by

WAYNE
REID.



FROM BENEATH THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER, RIP GRAVES METES OUT JUSTICE, AS ANY TRUE AMERICAN WOULD, TOWARD ANY TYPE OF FOREIGN AGGRESSION----

IN HIS HIDE-OUT, AXEL KOPF, LEADER OF THE AXIS SPY RING IN THIS COUNTRY, ADDRESSES HIS HENCHMEN--

TO DATE, COMRADES, VE HAFF BEEN ZUCCESFUL IN OBTAINING ALL BLANS UND INFORMATION DOT VILL BENEFIT DER HOMELAND--

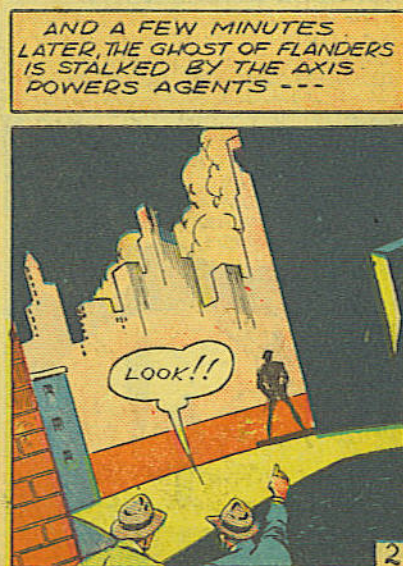
HEIL--

JA--

UND IN DER BOX HERE, ISS ALL DOT MATERIAL READY TO BE ZENT TO OUR COUNTRY VEN VE CAN ADD TO IT DER CONCENTRATED FOOD FORMULA--

VELL YOT ARE VE WAITING FOR ??

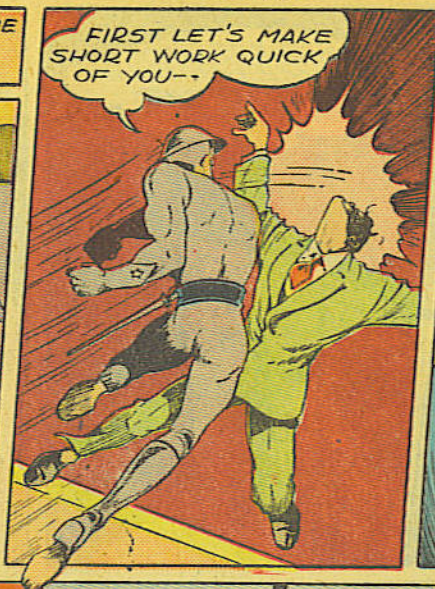
JA--VERE ISS IT-- VELL GET IT!!



THE TWO AGENTS RUSH THE UNSUSPECTING GHOST OF FLANDERS---



FIRST LET'S MAKE SHORT WORK QUICK OF YOU--



CRACK



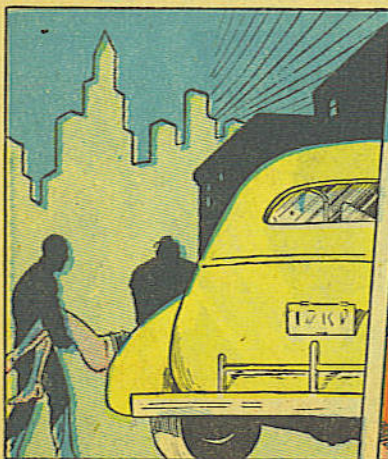
SUDDENLY A PIECE OF LEAD PIPE CRASHES DOWN ON THE GHOST'S SKULL---



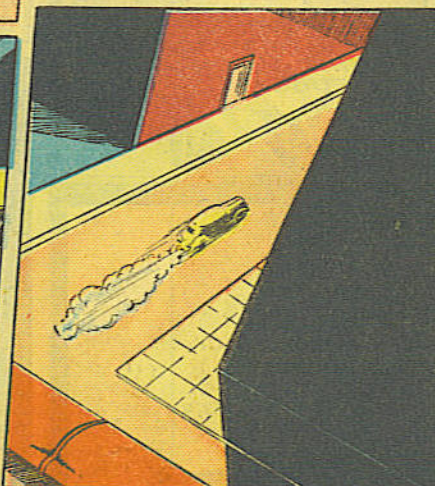
DOT DID IT!!



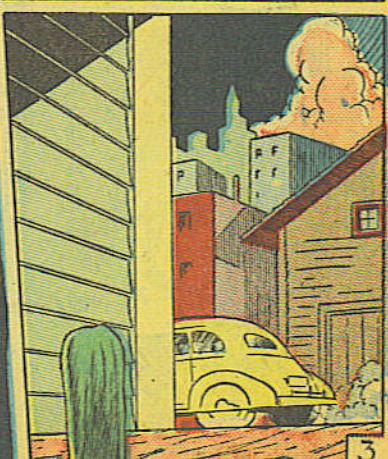
THE UNCONSCIOUS WARRIOR IS CARRIED TO A WAITING CAR---

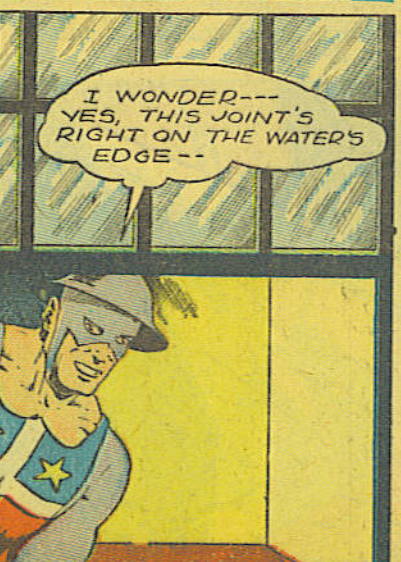
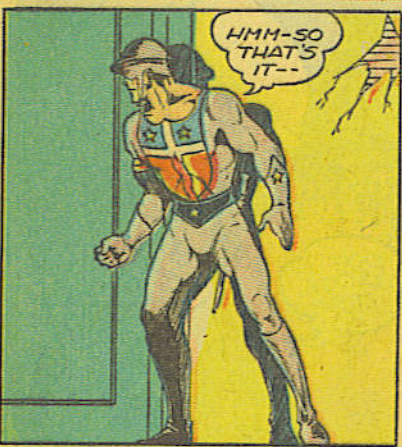
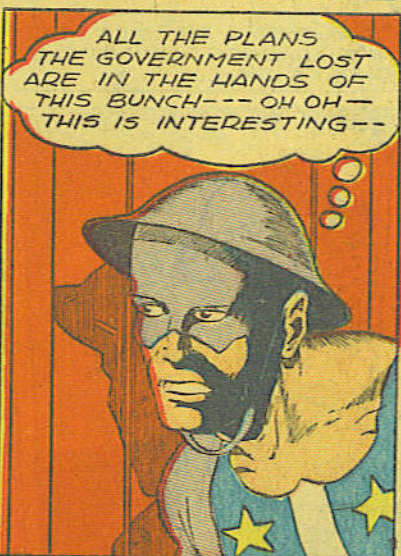


AND SPED TOWARDS KOPF'S HIDE-OUT---

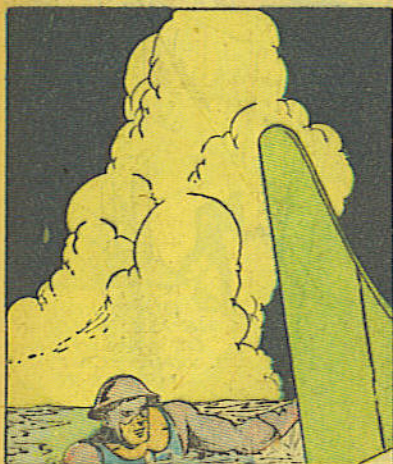


THEY COME TO A HALT IN FRONT OF THE CRUMBLING, DESERTED OLD WAREHOUSE--





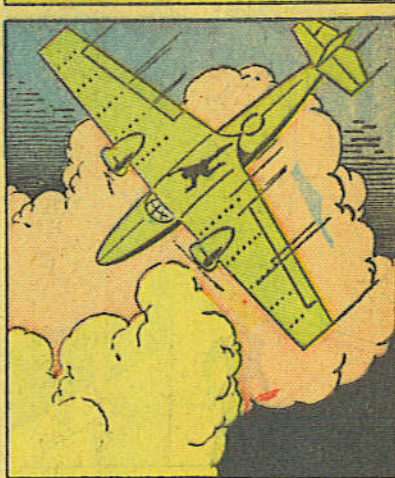
POWERFUL STROKES BRING
THE GHOST TO THE SEA -
PLANE AS IT TAKES OFF -



GRABBING THE TAIL HE
HANGS ON FOR DEAR
LIFE-----



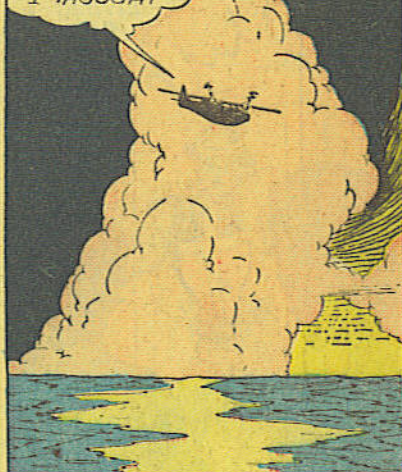
GHOST OF FLANDERS
MAKES HIS WAY TOWARD
THE COCK-PIT.....



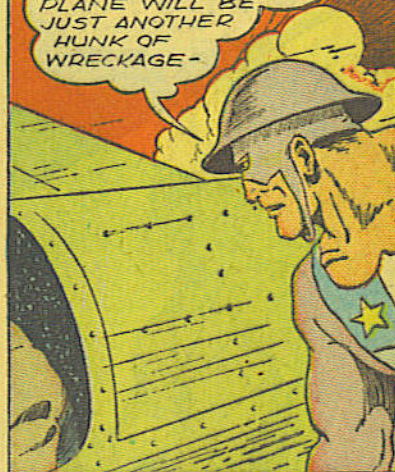
AND EASILY SLUGS THE
PILOT INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS -



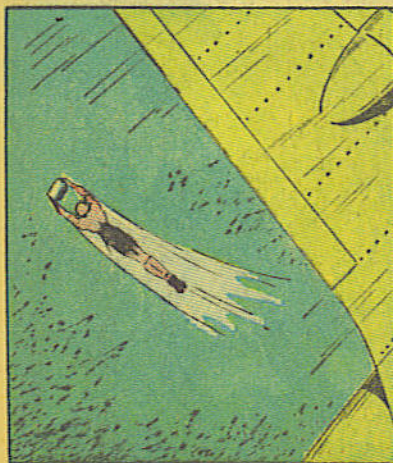
AH! THE BOX -
THIS WAS
EASIER THAN
I THOUGHT -



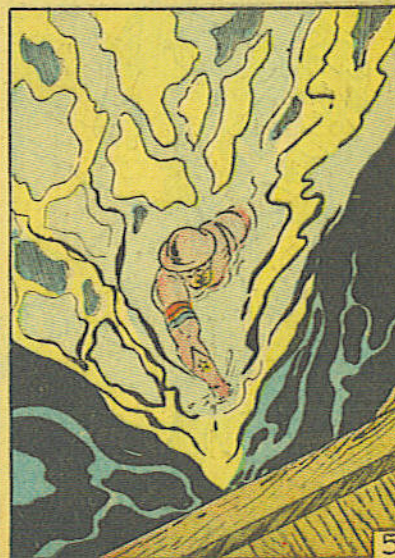
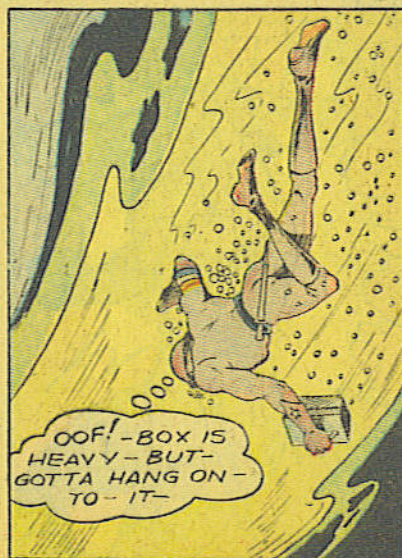
AND IF THIS MUG DOESN'T
WAKE UP SOON - HE'LL BE
FISH FOOD AND THE
PLANE WILL BE
JUST ANOTHER
HUNK OF
WRECKAGE -



AND ONCE MORE, THE GHOST
OF FLANDERS DIVES THROUGH
THE AIR ---



OOF! - BOX IS
HEAVY - BUT -
GOTTA HANG ON -
TO - IT -

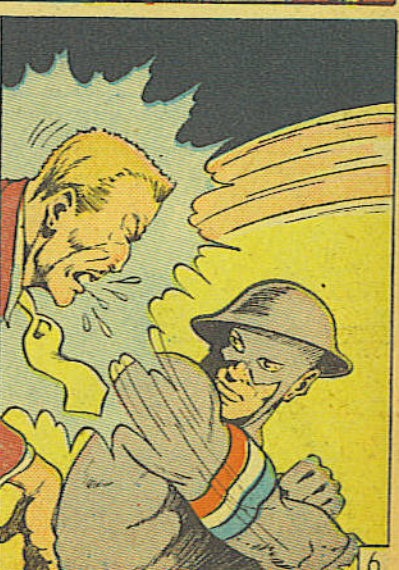
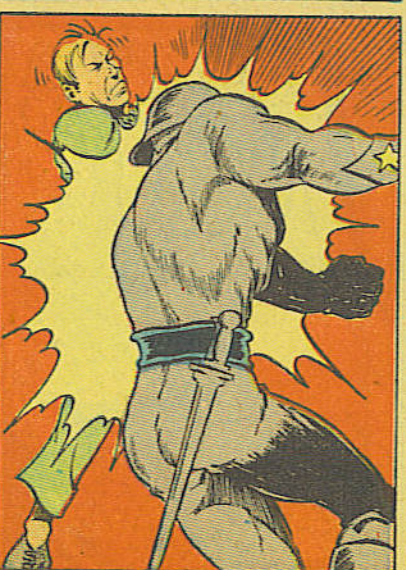
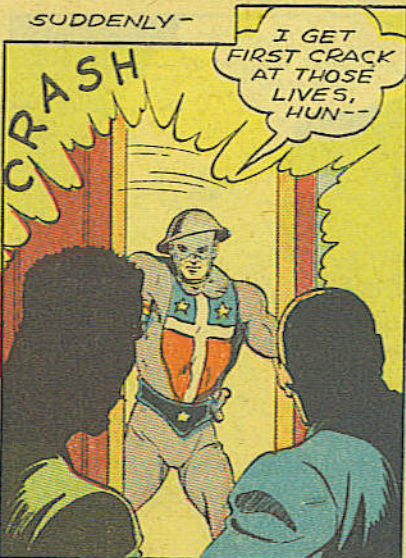


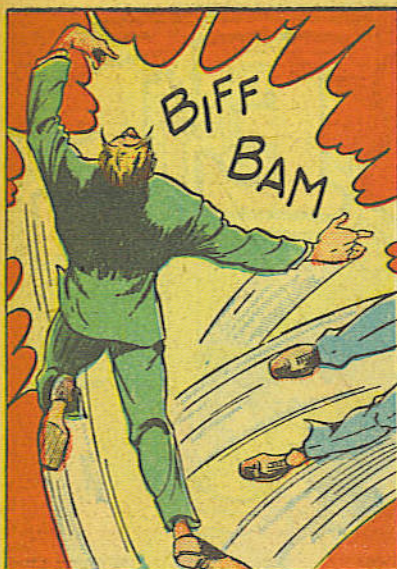


AND THIS TIME THE GHOST STALKS THE AXIS POWER---

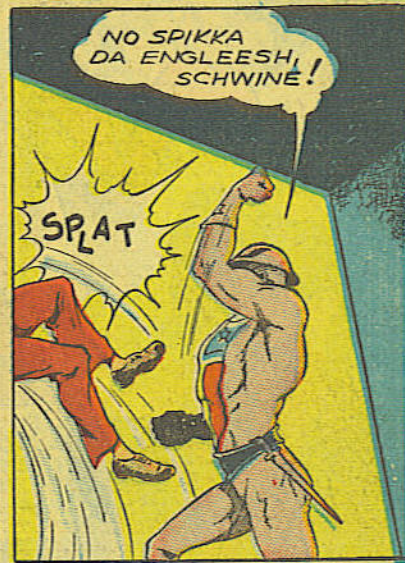
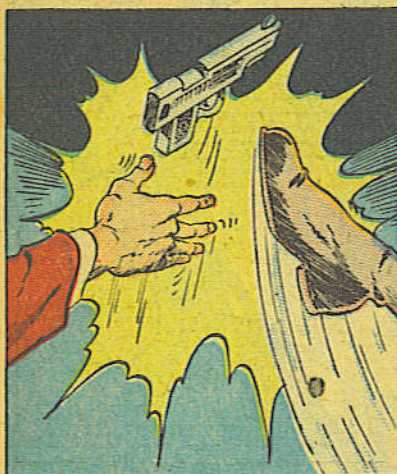


MEANWHILE, UPSTAIRS--





BUT A WELL AIMED KICK
DISARMS THE SPY---



THE RED BEE

BY B. H. APIARY

Mae Floss.

GUN MOLL

Blacky Meyers

Rick Raleigh

KING OF THE UNDERWORLD.

RICK RALEIGH, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY, WHO IS THE RED BEE, CROSSES SWORDS WITH A KING OF THE UNDERWORLD, WHOSE LUST FOR POWER STILL THROBS IN HIS DEMENTED BRAIN.

THE RED BEE

PRISON GATES CREAK SLOWLY OPEN FOR BLACKY MEYERS, UNDERWORLD CHIEF, WHO JUST FINISHED HIS SENTENCE.

HE SCURRIES TO HIS FORMER HANGOUT AND VICIOUSLY PUSHES THE BELL BUTTON.

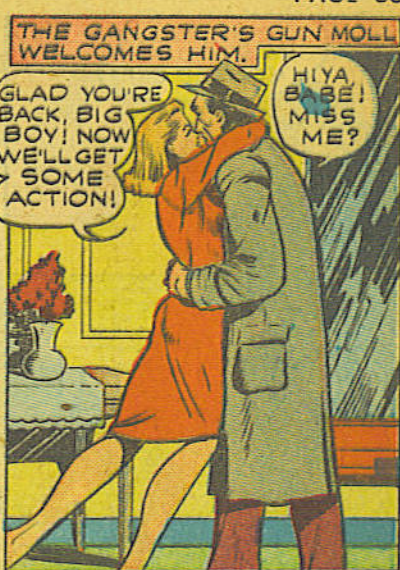
NONE OF THE MOB HERE TO MEET ME? I GUESS DEY THINK I'M THROUGH?

MAYBE DEY FORGOT HOW BLACKY USED TO RUN THINGS?

IT'S DE BIG BOY?



BUT T'INGS IS DIFFERENT NOW!

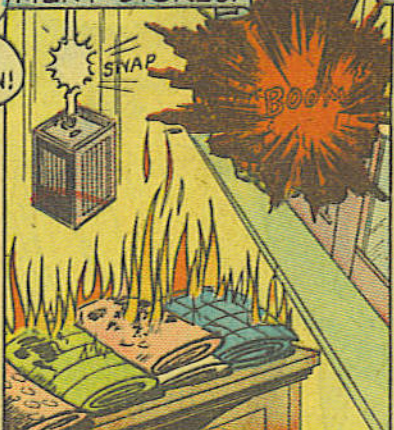


HIYA, BABE! MISS ME?

BLACKY OUTLINES HIS FIRST PLANS TO REGAIN HIS FORMER POWER.



AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER, A SERIES OF STRANGE ACCIDENTS BEGIN TO TAKE PLACE IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENT STORES.



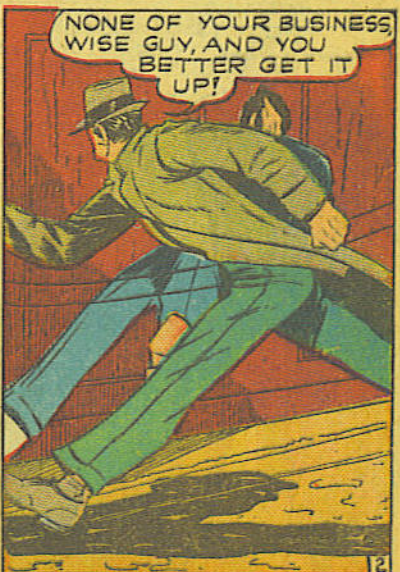
IN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

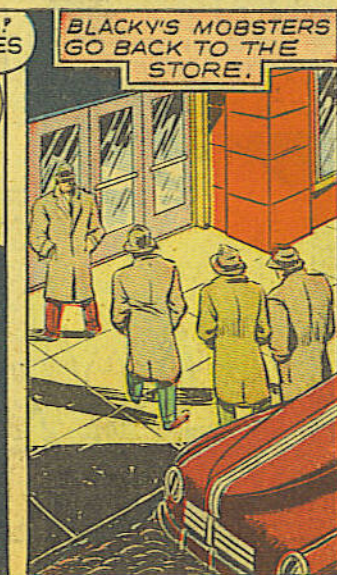
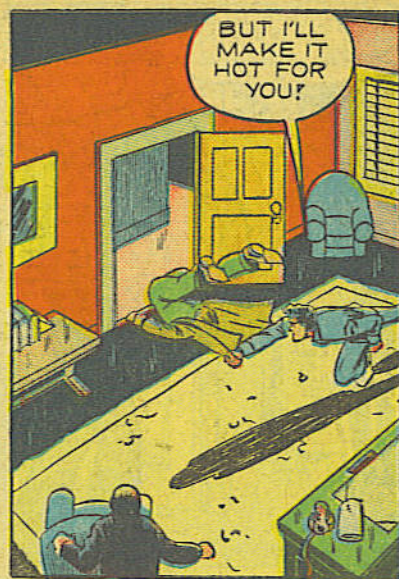


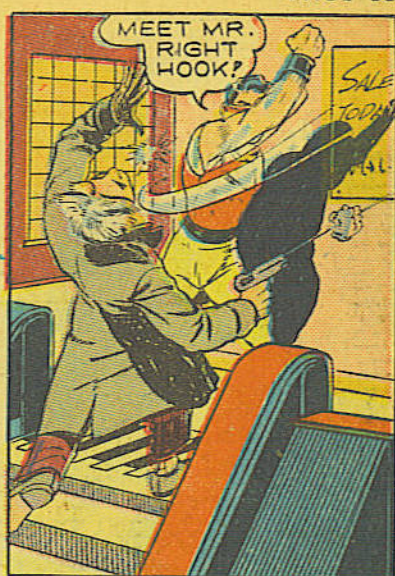
THAT AFTERNOON, RICK WAITS IN A STORE EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE WHEN ONE OF BLACKY'S HENCHMEN WALKS IN.



BEFORE WE SHELL OUT, WE'D LIKE TO KNOW WHO'S BEHIND THIS RACKET!



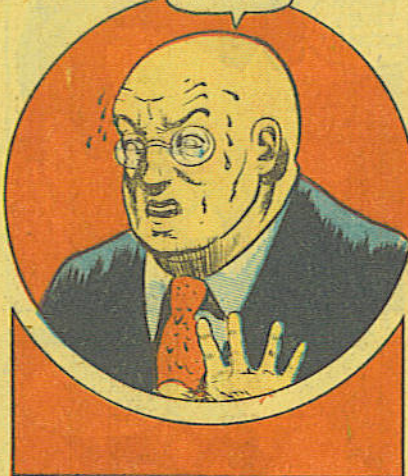




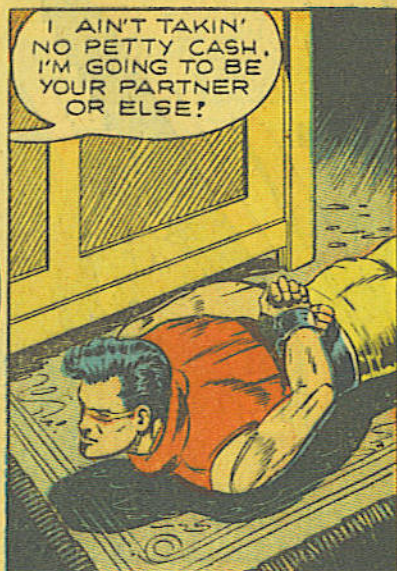
IN THE EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE.



PLEASE! I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE. HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT?



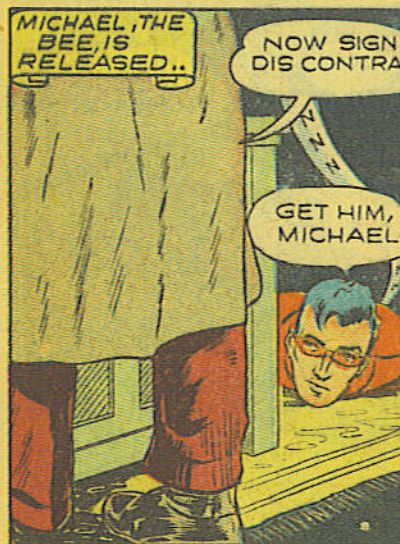
I AIN'T TAKIN' NO PETTY CASH. I'M GOING TO BE YOUR PARTNER OR ELSE!



MICHAEL, THE BEE, IS RELEASED..

NOW SIGN DIS CONTRACT!

GET HIM, MICHAEL!



OWW! MY HAND!



THE BUZZING BEE GOES ON A STINGING RAMPAGE, DISTRACTING THE GANGSTERS.

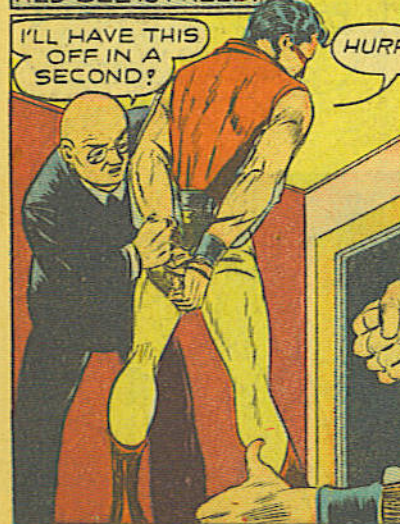
IT'S A BEE? KILL IT? YOW!



AND IN THE CONFUSION, THE RED BEE IS FREED.

I'LL HAVE THIS OFF IN A SECOND?

HURRY!

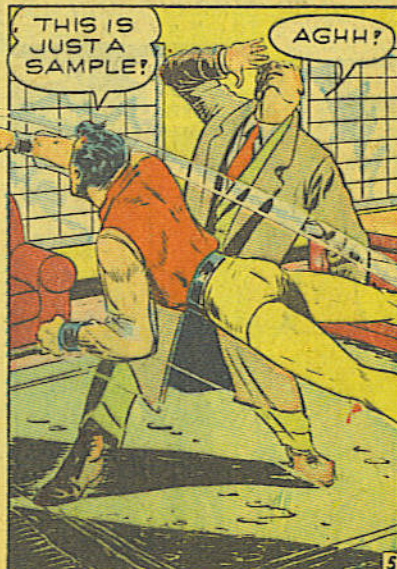


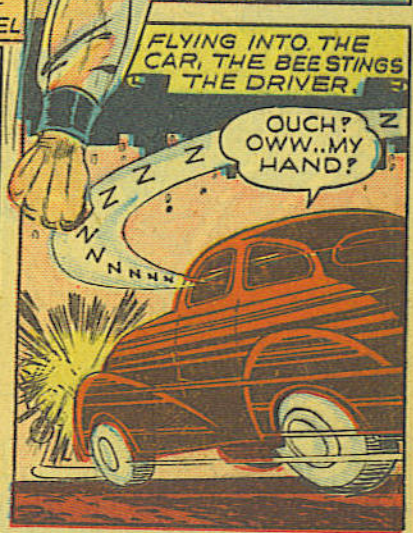
NOW TO EVEN THE SCORE WITH THOSE GUYS!



THIS IS JUST A SAMPLE!

AGHH?





AND THE VEHICLE GOES OUT OF CONTROL WITH A CRASH.

HAND LAUNDRY

GOOD BOY, MICHAEL? WE GOT 'EM?

THE POLICE QUICKLY APPREHEND THE CRIMINALS...

YES, OFFICER..HE'S THE MAN BEHIND THAT EXTORTION RING?

HE'LL GO UP FOR A LONG STRETCH?

BACK IN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE..

'WELL, RICK, THAT'S THE END OF BLACKY MEYER'S GANG... I WISH I COULD PERSONALLY THANK THE RED BEE!

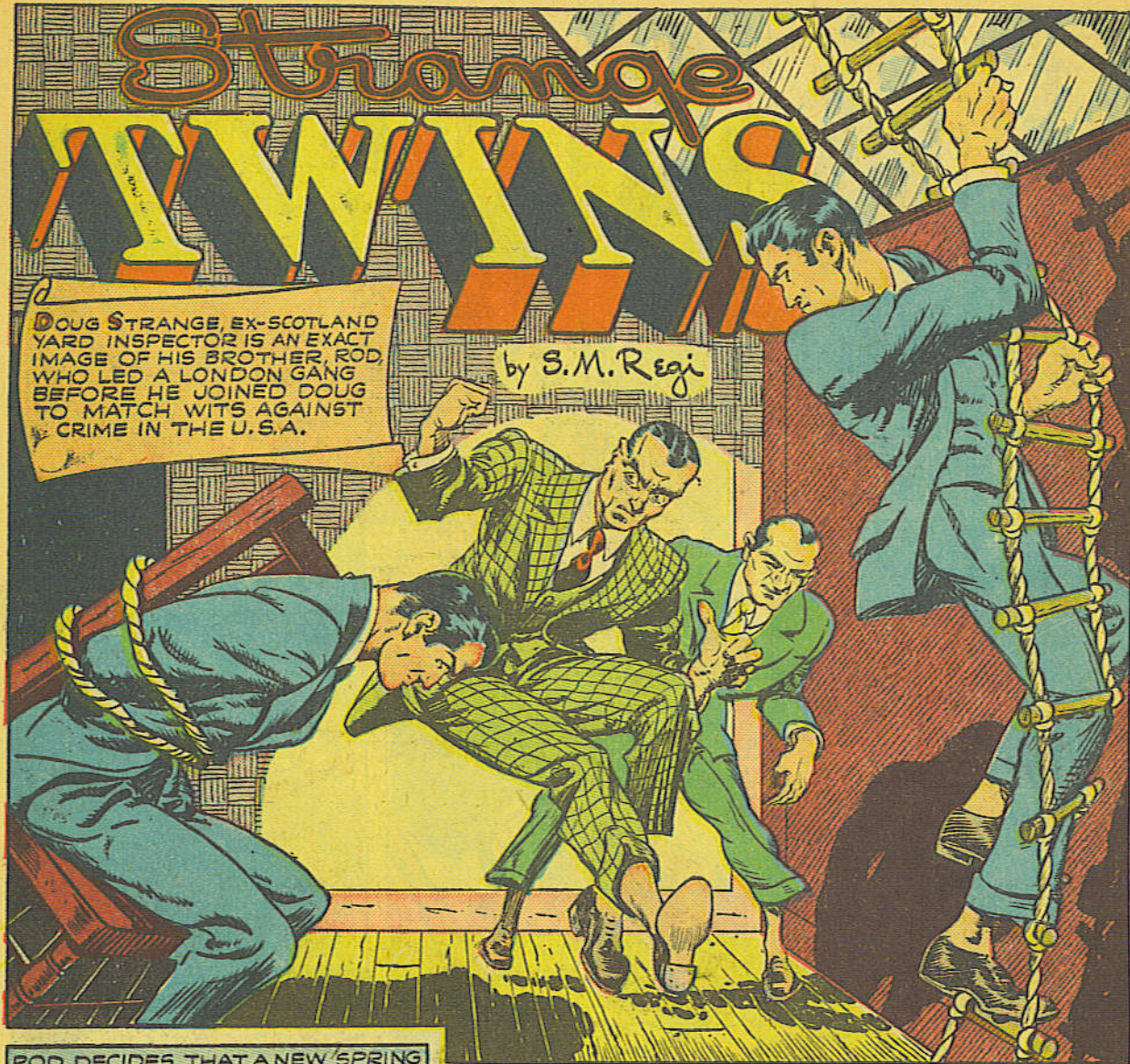
MAYBE YOU WILL SOME DAY?

AMERICA'S ENEMIES ARE THWARTED BY THE RED BEE IN NEXT MONTH'S EXCITING ISSUE OF **HIT COMICS**.

Strange TWINS

DOUG STRANGE, EX-SCOTLAND YARD INSPECTOR IS AN EXACT IMAGE OF HIS BROTHER, ROD, WHO LED A LONDON GANG BEFORE HE JOINED DOUG TO MATCH WITS AGAINST CRIME IN THE U.S.A.

by S.M. Regi



ROD DECIDES THAT A NEW SPRING TOPCOAT WOULD IMPROVE HIS APPEARANCE, ESPECIALLY SINCE HE AND DOUG ARE ON THE TRAIL OF THE "TOP-HATTERS" MOB. . .

THAT GENT BEHIND ME IS PACKING A GUN. I WONDER.

FITS YOU PERFECTLY, SIR!

ER.. YES.. SEND IT TO MY HOTEL!

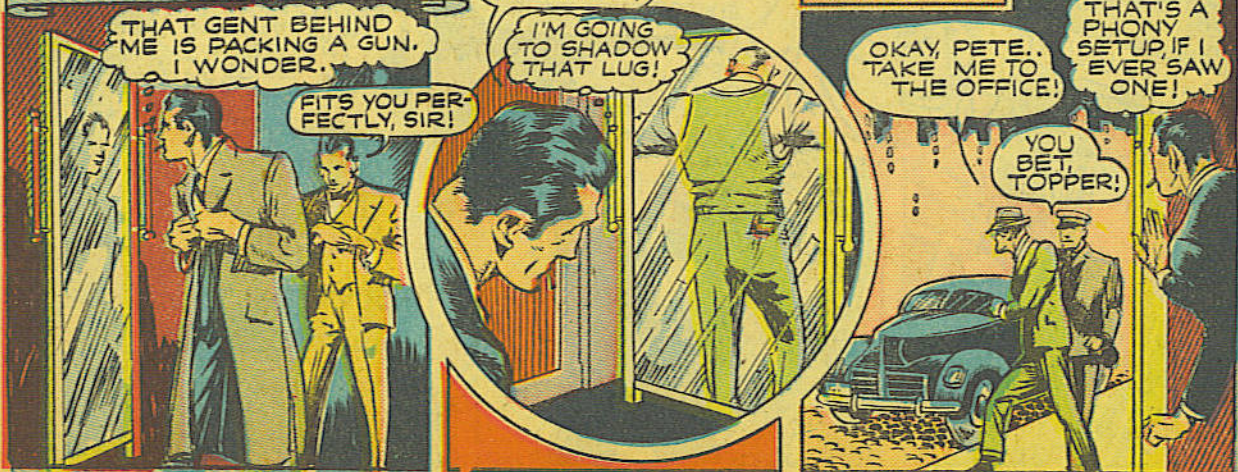
I'M GOING TO SHADOW THAT LUG!

OUTSIDE, ROD IS STARTLED TO SEE HIS QUARRY TAKE TO A LIMOUSINE.

OKAY PETE.. TAKE ME TO THE OFFICE!

THAT'S A PHONY SETUP, IF I EVER SAW ONE!

YOU BET, TOPPER!



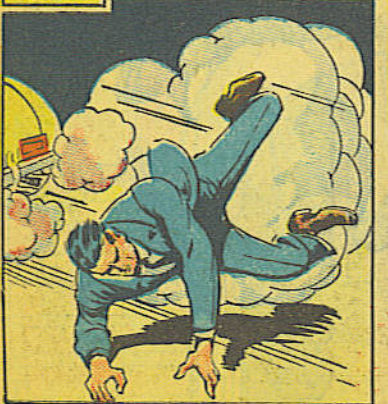


THE TAXI MAN RACES AT TOP SPEED ACROSS THE HUGE INTERSTATE BRIDGE.

ROD CLIMBS OUT AND CLINGS PRECARIOUSLY ON THE SPEEDING CAB'S RUNNING BOARD.



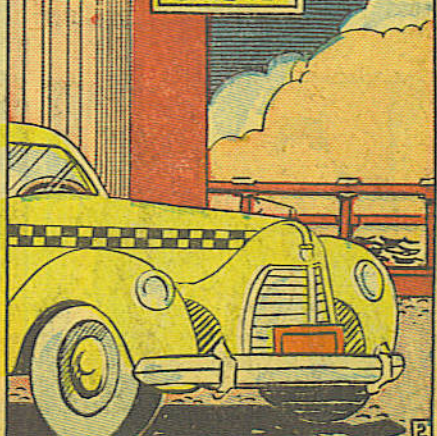
SHEER LUCK PREVENTS ROD FROM BEING KILLED, AS HE IS THROWN TO THE PAVEMENT.



HIS TWIN FINDS DRASTIC ACTION IS NECESSARY.



AND THE CAB SPUTTERSTO A STOP, AS IT LEAVES THE BRIDGE.

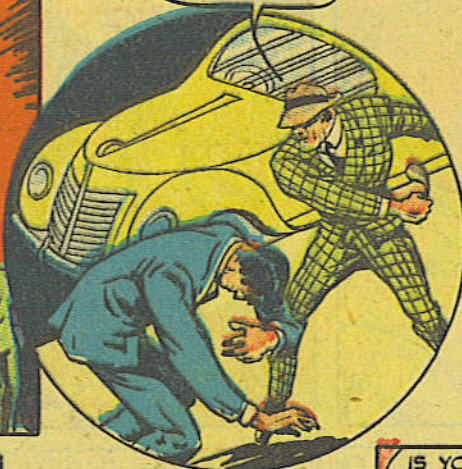


SWIFTLY, DOUG PILES OUT, BUT HE FAILS TO SEE THE LIMOUSINE DRAW UP BEHIND HIM.

I'VE GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL TO PAY YOU FOR PUSHING MY BROTHER ONTO THE BRIDGE... COME AND GET IT!



HERE'S HOW I MAKE FRIENDS WITH SNOOPERS LIKE YOU!



NICE GOIN', EH, TOPPER? BUT SAY, THERE WAS ANUDDER GUY LOOKIN' JUST LIKE HIM WHO I KNOCKED OFF ON THE BRIDGE!

TRYIN' TO KID ME, DUSTY?



WE'LL TAKE THIS DICK TO THE HIDE-OUT AND MAKE HIM SING!

AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME, BOSS... IF YOU'RE GOIN' TO THE CLUB!



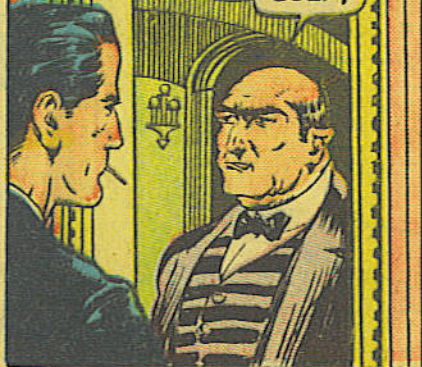
MEANWHILE, ROD HAS DUSTED OFF HIS CLOTHES AND REACHES THE VAN CASTER MANSION.

DOUG CAN PICK UP THEIR TRAIL FROM THE OTHER END WHILE I KEEP WATCH HERE!



IS YOUR MASTER AT HOME, NEVINS?

ER... SORRY, MR. STRANGE, HE'S OUT FOR A ROUND OF GOLF!



THEN I'LL WAIT FOR HIS RETURN! ANY TROUBLE SINCE MY BROTHER LEFT HERE?

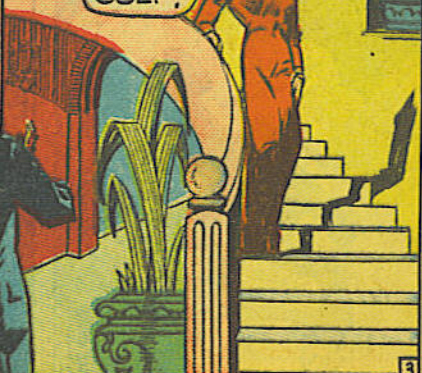
OH NO, SIR... REALLY THERE'S NO DANGER AT ALL!



AH, GOOD AFTERNOON, MRS. VAN CASTER! NEVINS TELLS ME ALL IS WELL!



YES, MY HUSBAND WILL DROP HIS STAMP COLLECTION AT THE BANK VAULT WHEN HE RETURNS FROM GOLF!



NEVINS, MEANWHILE, HAS SLIPPED INTO AN ALCOVE.

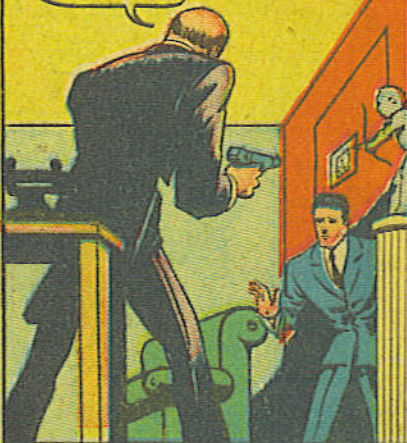


HELLO, BOSS? YEAH, THAT PRIVATE DICK IS HERE AND THE MISSUS TOLD HIM THAT HIS NIBS HAS THE STAMPS WITH HIM AT THE GOLF CLUB!

STRANGE IS AT THE HOUSE? HE MUST'VE BROKEN LOOSE. WE HAD HIM TIED UP. SO YOU'VE GOT TO STALL HIM WHILE WE GO TO THE CLUB AND GET VAN CASTER'S COLLECTION!

WHIRLING FROM THE PHONE, NEVINS DRAWS A GUN ON INQUISITIVE ROD.

RAISE YOUR HANDS, GUMSHOE AND GET INTO THAT CLOSET!



A BUTLER SHOULD TAKE ORDERS. NOT GIVE 'EM!

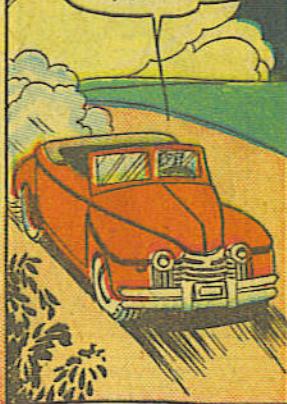


NEVINS ALLIED WITH THOSE CROOKS! GRACIOUS, I MUST CALL THE POLICE TO ARREST HIM BEFORE HE IS CONSCIOUS!

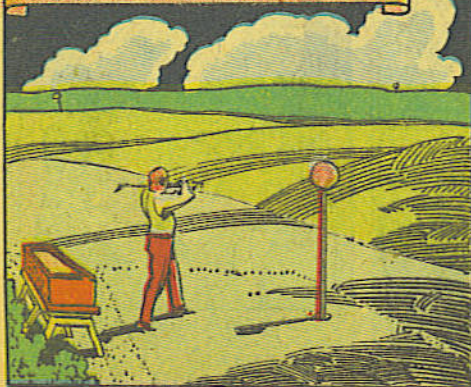
RIGHTO, MRS. VAN CASTER! AND I'M TAKING A CAR FROM YOUR GARAGE TO REACH THE GOLF CLUB!



I HAVEN'T A SECOND TO LOSE, IF NEVINS TIPPED OFF THE TOP-HATTERS MOB!



BUT TOPPER AND HIS BOSS, CURVITZ, IN GOLFING GARB, ARE ALREADY TEEING OFF.



VAN CASTER AND HIS PARTNER ARE PLAYING THE SEVENTH HOLE. WE CAN CUT ACROSS THE FAIRWAY AND JUMP 'EM FROM BEHIND THE GREEN!

OKAY, TOPPER. I'LL DRIVE THIS BALL IN TO THE WOODS AND WE'LL PRETEND TO LOOK FOR IT!





SUDDENLY, A ROADSTER TEARS ACROSS THE FAIRWAY AND ROD LEAPS OUT.



FURIOUS FIRE DRIVES ROD TO COVER AND THE BANDITS TAKE OFF IN THE CAR.















FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
President of the United States



WILLIAM W. WELLS
Governor of New York

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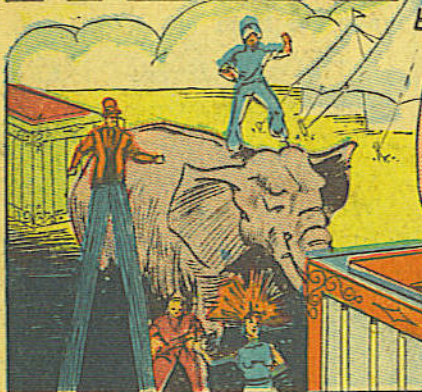
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
President of the United States
WILLIAM W. WELLS
Governor of New York

[illegible]

HERCULES

by Gregg Powers

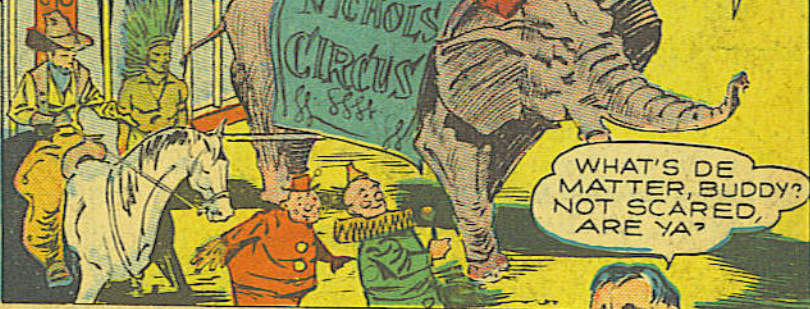
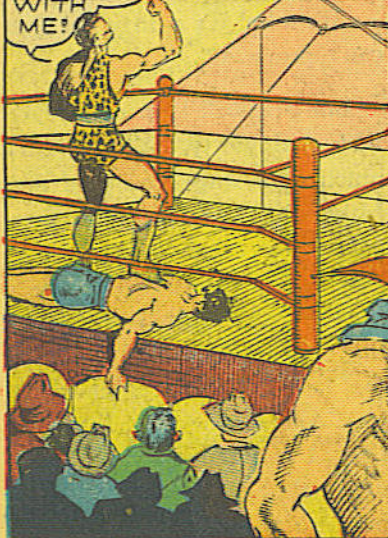
PITTING HIS BRAUN AGAINST THE FURY OF TREACHEROUS MEN AND SAVAGE BEASTS, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MAN MEETS AMAZING PERILS AMID THE BOISTEROUS GAITY OF A CIRCUS.



WANDERING INTO A CIRCUS SIDE SHOW, HERCULES IS IN TIME TO SEE BOZO THE STRONGMAN KNOCK OUT A CHALLENGER.

WIN \$100
WRESTLE
5 ROUNDS WITH
BOZO
STRONGEST
MAN IN THE
WORLD

ANY-
BODY ELSE
WANNA TAKE
A WHIRL
WITH
ME!

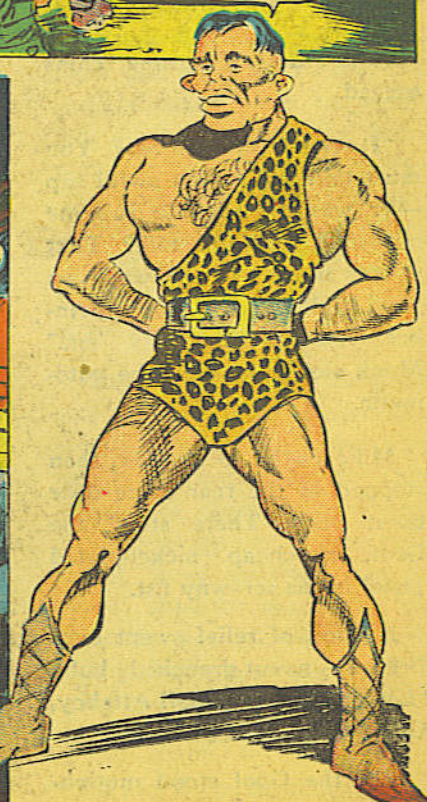
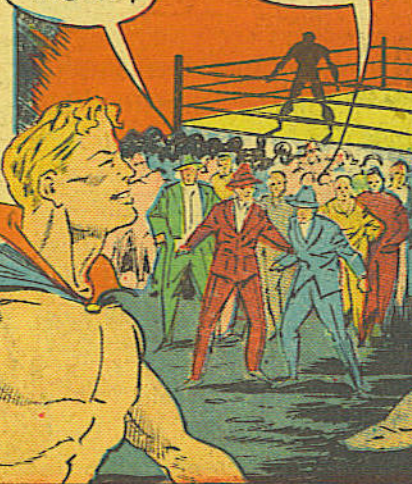


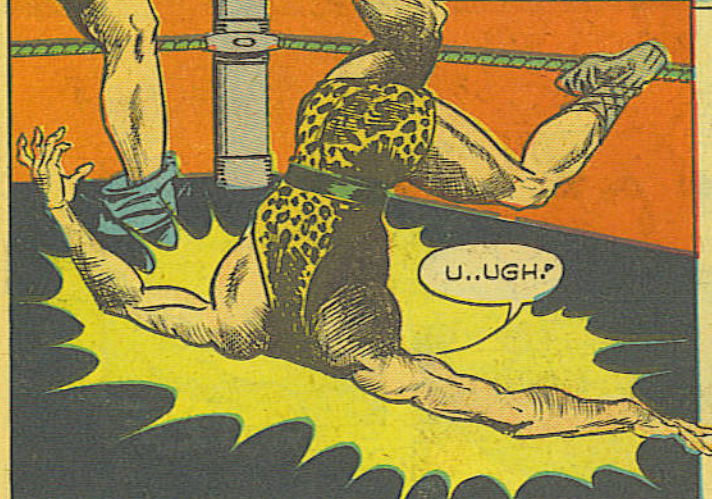
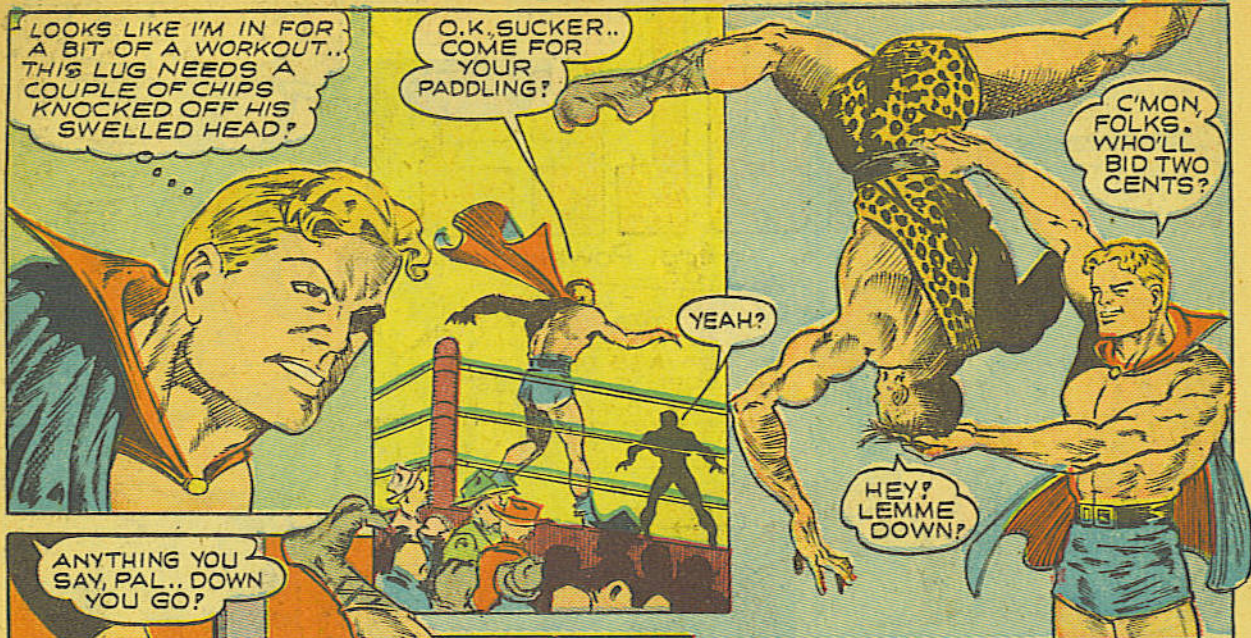
WHAT'S DE
MATTER, BUDDY?
NOT SCARED,
ARE YA?

SUDDENLY, THE AUDIENCE
SPOTS THE MASTER OF
STRONG MEN.

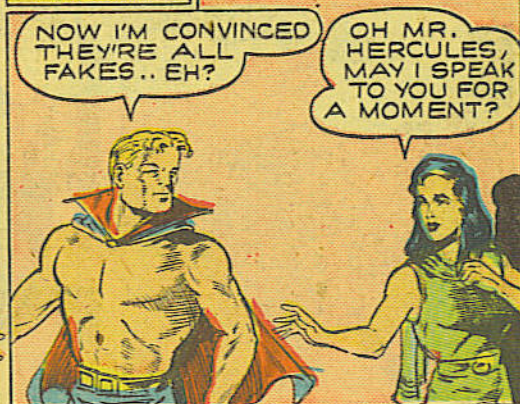
SHOW
HIM SOME
REAL
MUSCLE
WORK?

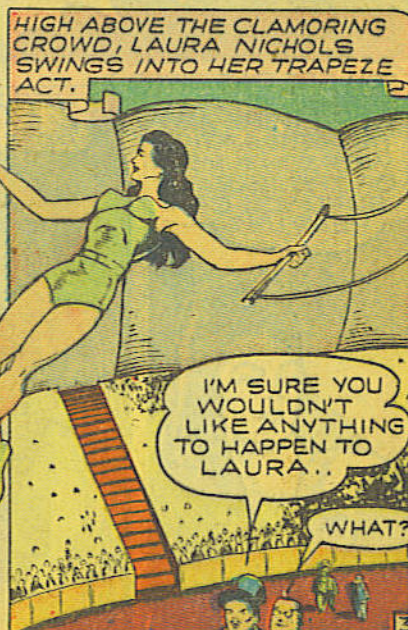
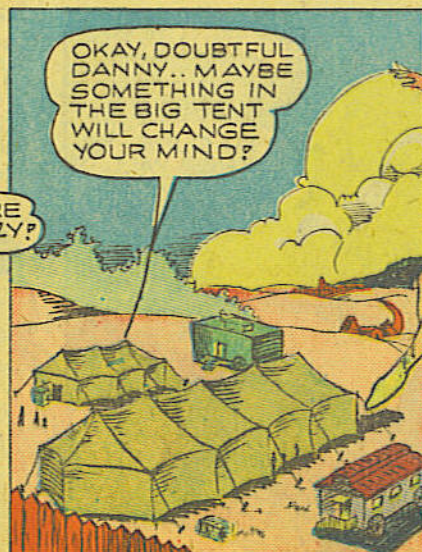
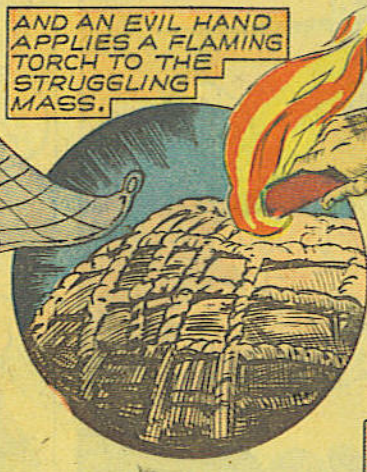
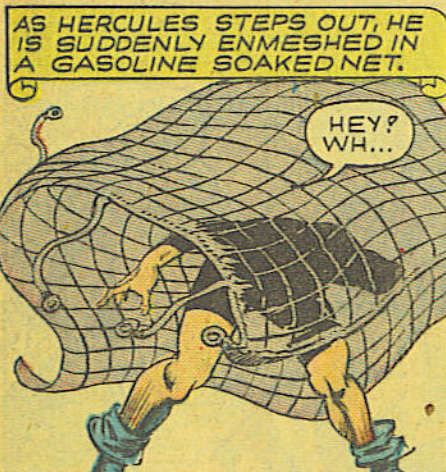
C'MON,
HERCULES..
LET 'IM
HAVE IT!



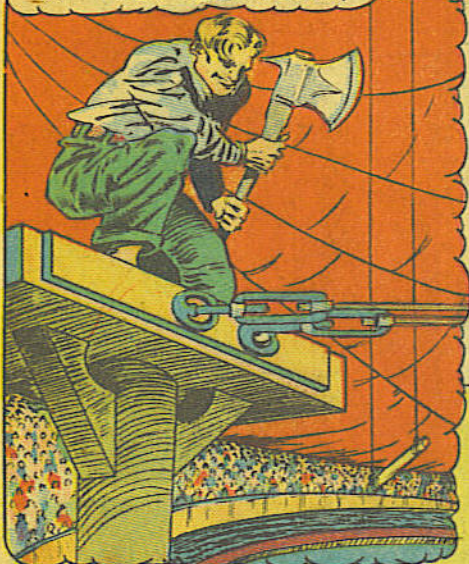


WITH THE ROARING APPLAUSE ECHOING IN HIS EARS, HERCULES STARTS TO LEAVE.





ALL I GOTTA DO, DANNY, IS SIGNAL MY MAN UP THERE AND LAURA WILL BE LYING AT YOUR FEET..DEAD?



AND LAURA HURTTLES DOWN TO CERTAIN DEATH.



OHH. HELP!

BUT HERCULES IS THERE ON THE SPOT.



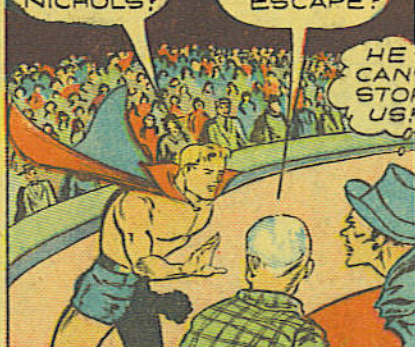
EASY, LAURA?

THANK HEAVENS! HE SAVED HER!

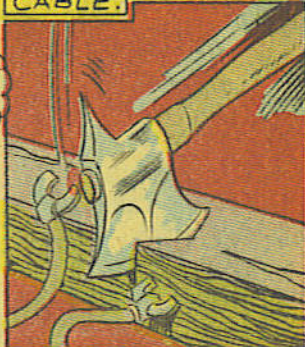
HOLD IT? DON'T GIVE HIM THAT CASH, MR. NICHOLS?

HERCULES?? HOW ON EARTH DID YOU ESCAPE?

HE CAN'T STOP US?



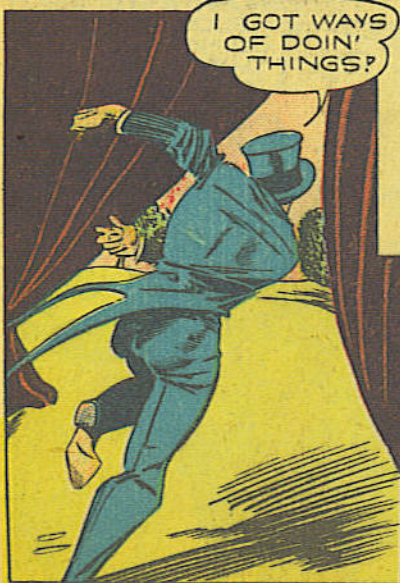
AT THE SIGNAL FROM THE RINGMASTER, THE RIGGER SLASHES LAURA'S SUPPORTING CABLE.



WHEN I GET THAT NOSEY MUG..THERE WON'T EVEN BE ANY BONES LEFT FOR THE DOGS! ??G☆! BLASTED ??☆G!

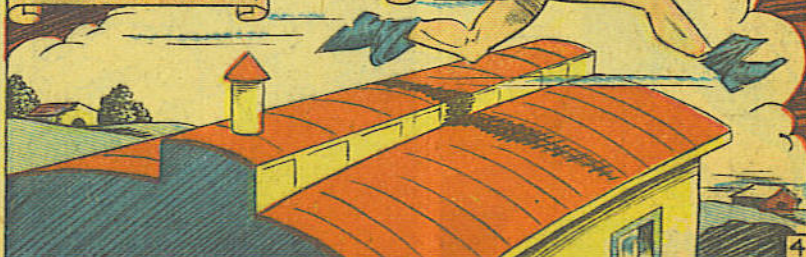


I GOT WAYS OF DOIN' THINGS?



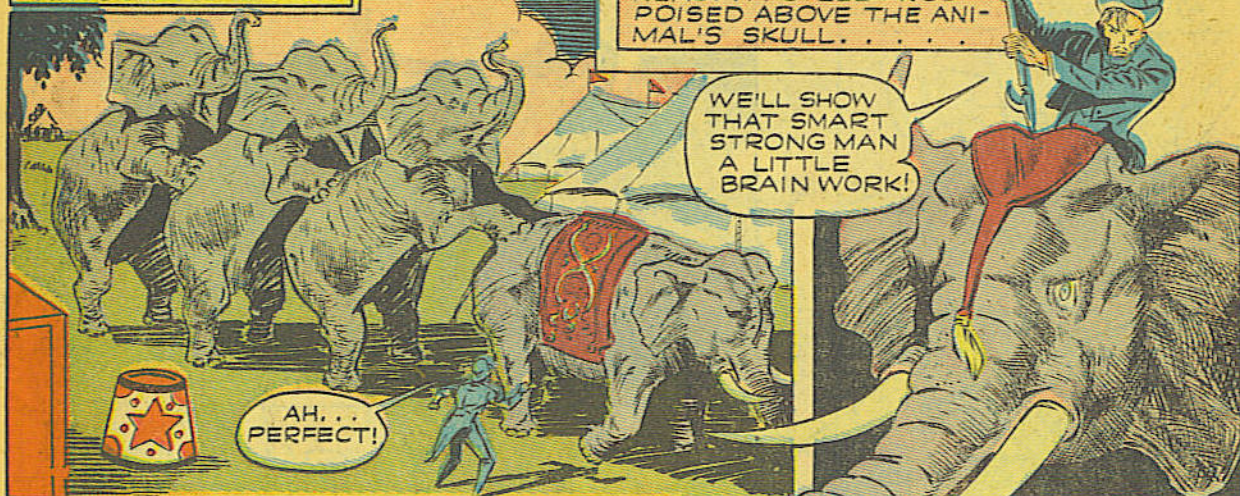
HE MUST BE AFRAID OF ME? I'LL HAVE TO CATCH THAT SNEAK BEFORE HE MESSSES UP SOMETHING ELSE?

HERCULES LEAPS OVER THE CIRCUS WAGON TO KEEP HIS QUARRY IN SIGHT.



IN A CORNER OF THE CIRCUS GROUNDS, A TROUPE OF ELEPHANTS IS BEING PUT THROUGH ITS PACES.

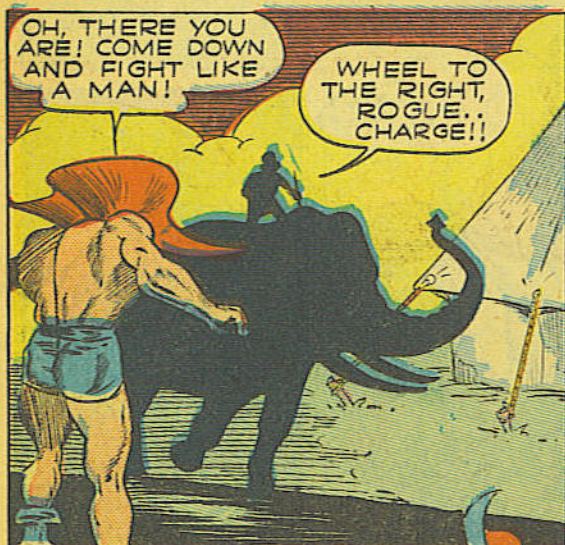
THE VICIOUS RINGMASTER JUMPS TO THE LEADER'S HEAD... A STEEL PROD POISED ABOVE THE ANIMAL'S SKULL...



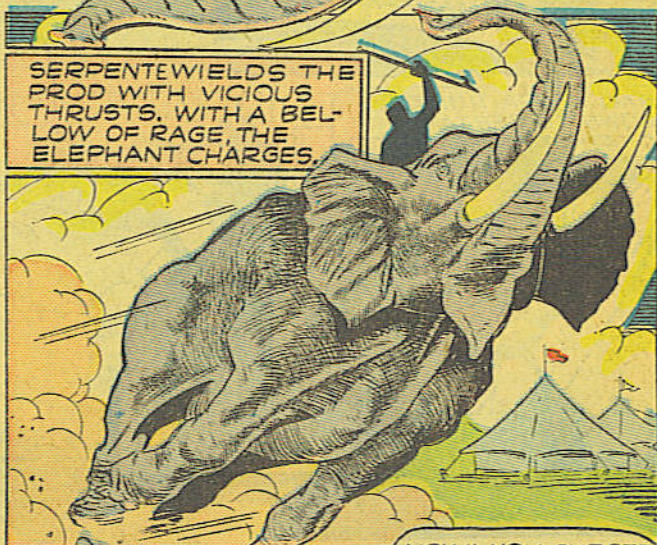
AH... PERFECT!

OH, THERE YOU ARE! COME DOWN AND FIGHT LIKE A MAN!

WHEEL TO THE RIGHT, ROGUE... CHARGE!!



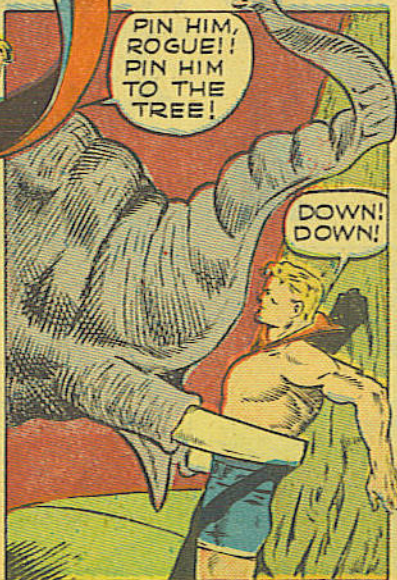
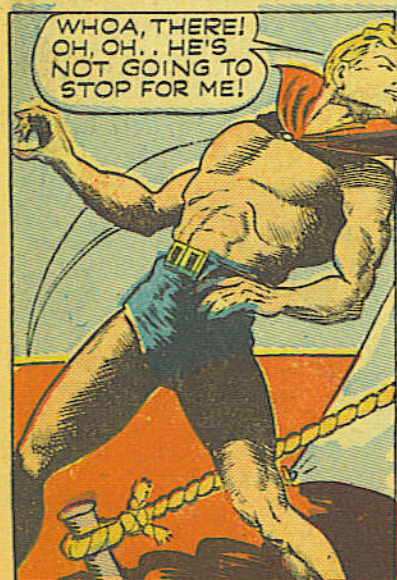
SERPENTEWIELDS THE PROD WITH VICIOUS THRUSTS, WITH A BELLOW OF RAGE, THE ELEPHANT CHARGES.



WHOA, THERE! OH, OH... HE'S NOT GOING TO STOP FOR ME!

PIN HIM, ROGUE!! PIN HIM TO THE TREE!

DOWN! DOWN!

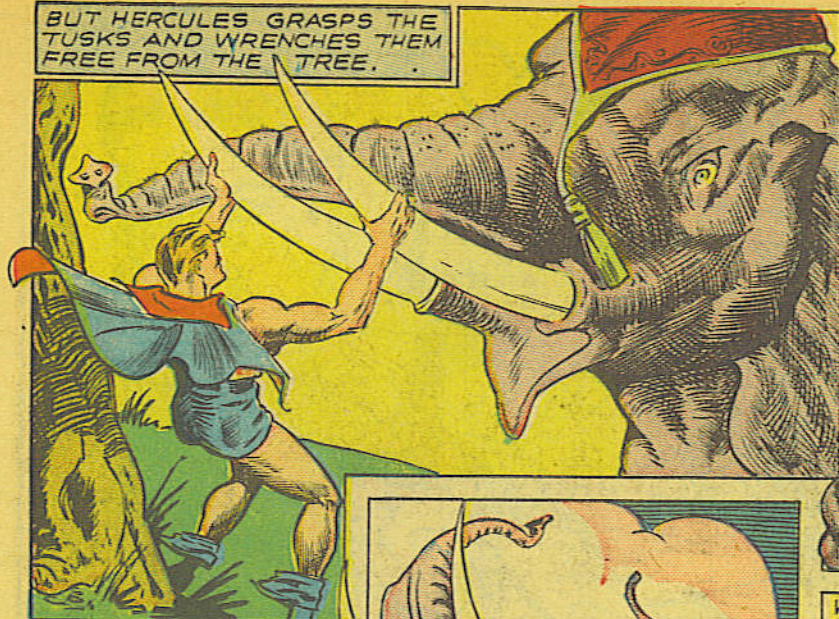


NOW! YOU CURSED MEDDLER! I'M GOING TO SINK THIS PROD RIGHT INTO YOUR BRAIN!

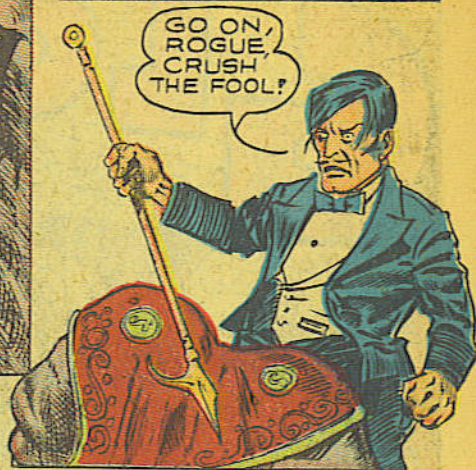
DROP THAT OR..



BUT HERCULES GRASPS THE TUSKS AND WRENCHES THEM FREE FROM THE TREE.



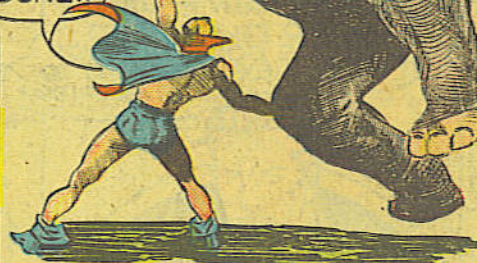
THE GIGANTIC ELEPHANT REARS HIGH, ABOUT TO HEAVE HIS WEIGHT ON HERCULES.



SO YOU'D LIKE TO SEE ME SMASHED NICE AND FLAT? WELL..

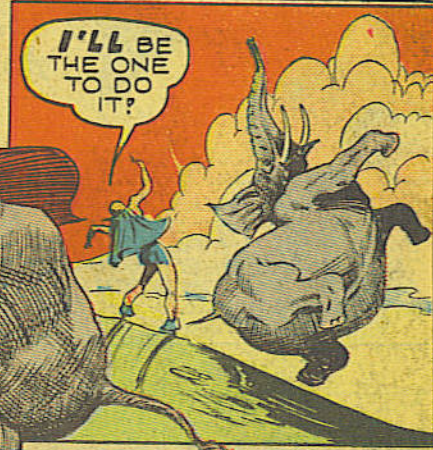


IF THERE IS GOING TO BE ANY CRUSHING DONE..



WITH A TREMENDOUS SURGE OF MUSCLE, HERCULES TOSSES THE HUGE ANIMAL INTO THE AIR.

I'LL BE THE ONE TO DO IT?



AND SERPENTE'S EVIL PLANS HEAD INTO REVERSE.

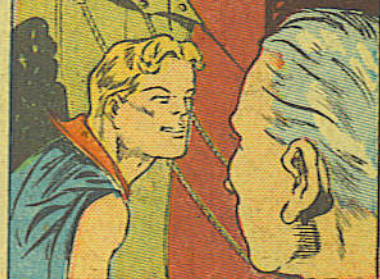
HE'LL LIVE, MR. NICHOLS.. ENOUGH TO SERVE A JAIL SENTENCE. I GUESS THE ELEPHANTS ONLY SHAKEN?



IS THERE ANYWAY I CAN REPAY YOU, MR. HERCULES.



SURE, MR. NICHOLS.. JUST GIVE ALL THE POOR LITTLE KIDS PASSES TO THE SHOW?

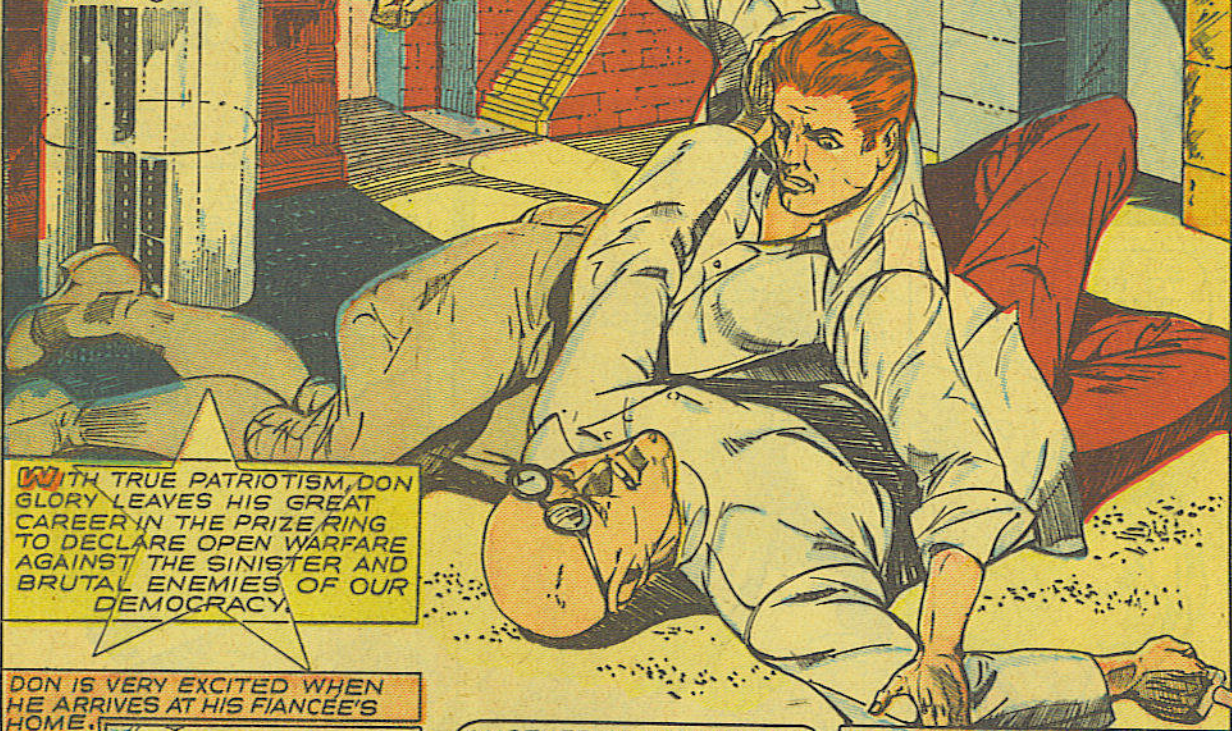


BUY QUALITY COMIC GROUP MAGAZINES EACH MONTH FOR THE BEST IN ACTION, MYSTERY, AND HUMOR

DON GLORY

CHAMPION of DEMOCRACY

by
Lincoln Ross



WITH TRUE PATRIOTISM, DON GLORY LEAVES HIS GREAT CAREER IN THE PRIZE RING TO DECLARE OPEN WARFARE AGAINST THE SINISTER AND BRUTAL ENEMIES OF OUR DEMOCRACY.

DON IS VERY EXCITED WHEN HE ARRIVES AT HIS FIANCEE'S HOME.

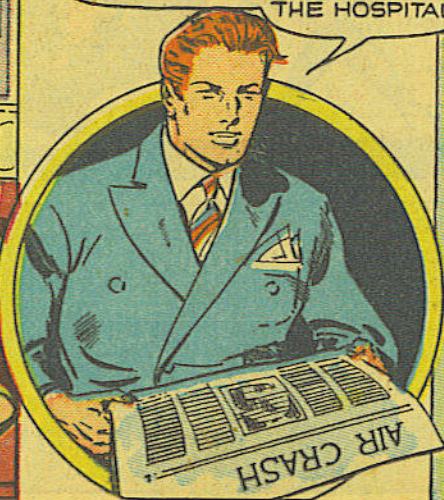
WHY, DON? WHAT ON EARTH IS EATING YOU?

ANOTHER ARMY BOMBER CRASHED. I'M GOING TO SEE THE SOLE SURVIVOR WHEN HE'S BROUGHT TO THE HOSPITAL!

DON REACHES THE HOSPITAL AS THE INJURED CO-PILOT IS CARRIED IN.

YES, MR. GLORY, THE DOCTOR SAID YOU MAY TALK TO THE PATIENT!

THANK YOU.



MIGHTY GLAD TO TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT, DON. WE WERE FLYING IN FORMATION. THE SHIP WAS GOING GREAT...UNTIL WE PASSED THROUGH SOME LIGHT CLOUD. THEN THE BIG PLANES JUST FELL APART ALL AT ONCE. I WISH YOU'D GO TO OUR FIELD AND INVESTIGATE?



DON WASTES NO TIME GETTING TO THE ARMY BOMBER BASE.

IT'S TERRIBLY QUIET HERE. ALL PLANES ARE GROUNDED. I'D BETTER ASK THE COLONEL ABOUT MY IDEA!



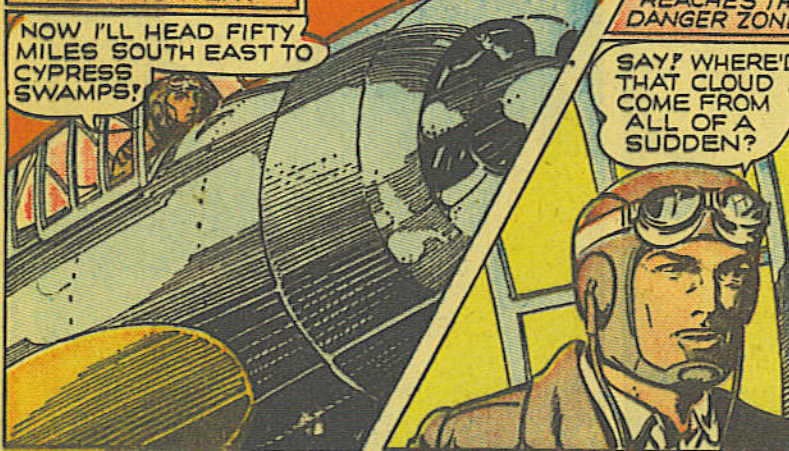
I THINK I CAN SOLVE THE MYSTERY CRASHES IF YOU'LL ISSUE AN ORDER FOR A SQUADRON TO FLY OVER THE SAME COURSE. BUT KEEP THE SHIPS HERE WHILE I GO OVER THE ROUTE ALONE.

I'LL DO THAT, DON. YOUR IDEAS NEVER FAIL!



WITH THE SKILL OF A REGULAR ARMY PILOT, DON TAKES OFF IN A SPEEDY FIGHTER.

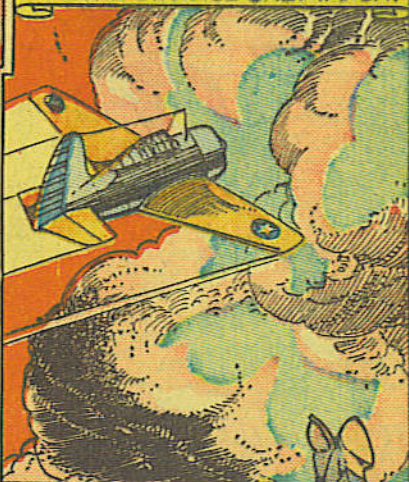
NOW I'LL HEAD FIFTY MILES SOUTH EAST TO CYPRESS SWAMPS!



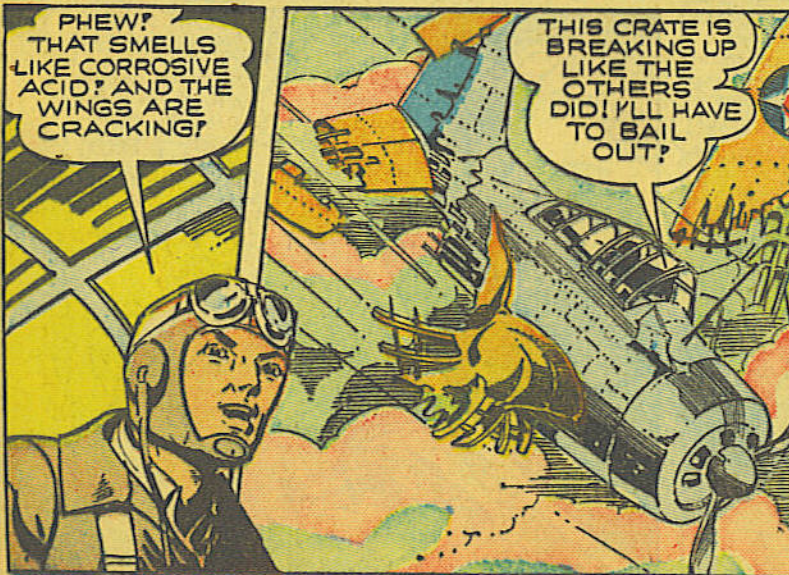
AT 300 MILES PER HOUR, DON REACHES THE DANGER ZONE.

SAY! WHERE'D THAT CLOUD COME FROM ALL OF A SUDDEN?

FEARLESS, HE NOSES HIS SHIP INTO THE STRANGE GREY VAPOR.



PHEW! THAT SMELLS LIKE CORROSIVE ACID? AND THE WINGS ARE CRACKING!



THIS CRATE IS BREAKING UP LIKE THE OTHERS DID! I'LL HAVE TO BAIL OUT!

WRECKAGE FILLS THE AIR, AS DON TAKES TO HIS 'CHUTE.



LUCKY FOR ME I'VE GOT A 'CHUTE KNIFE AND A CAMPING KIT! THIS IS A DESOLATE SWAMP!

CUTTING HIS HARNESS, DON DROPS HEAVILY TO THE SOGGY GROUND...

MY THROAT FEELS STRANGELY PARCHED! I'LL HUNT AROUND FOR SOME WATER!

A SHORT WALK THROUGH THE DENSE UNDER-GROWTH BRINGS HIM TO A BROOK...

I FORGOT TO FILL MY CANTEEN AT THE FIELD, BUT I CAN DIP IT IN HERE!

HOLY SMOKE! THERE'S SOMETHING IN THAT STREAM BESIDES WATER! IT'S BLISTERING THIS METAL FLASK, BUT IT DOESN'T HURT MY HANDS!

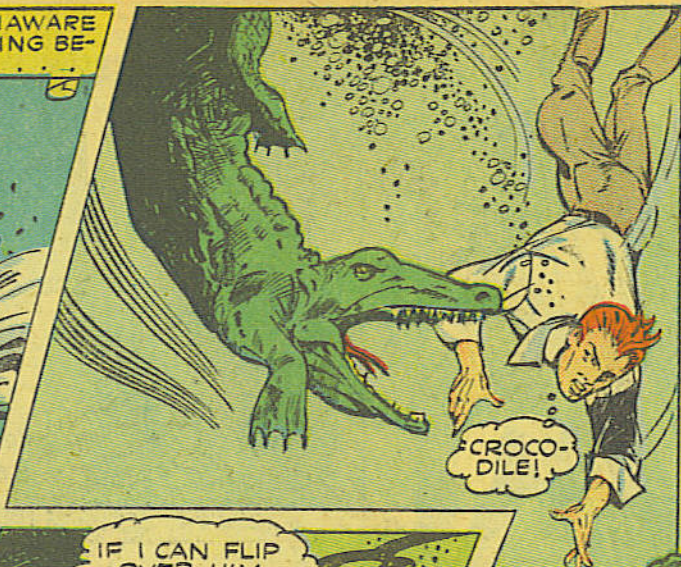
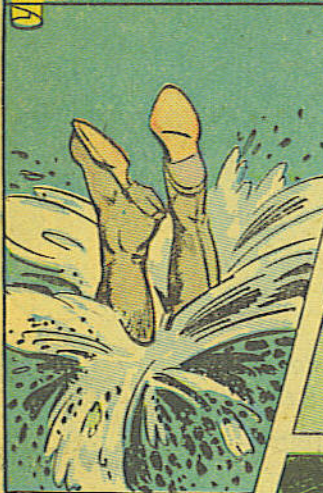
BY FOLLOWING THIS BROOK, I MAY FIND OUT WHAT'S IN THE WATER! PERHAPS THAT WILL EXPLAIN WHY MY SHIP BROKE UP IN MID-AIR, TOO!

IT COMES FROM THE FOOT OF THIS MOUNTAIN! NOW THE GOING WILL BE TOUGH!

WHAT THE DEUCE! IT DIS-APPEARS INTO THAT CAVE!

FROM HERE ON I'LL HAVE TO SWIM AGAINST THE CURRENT, AND IT'S DARK IN THERE, TOO!

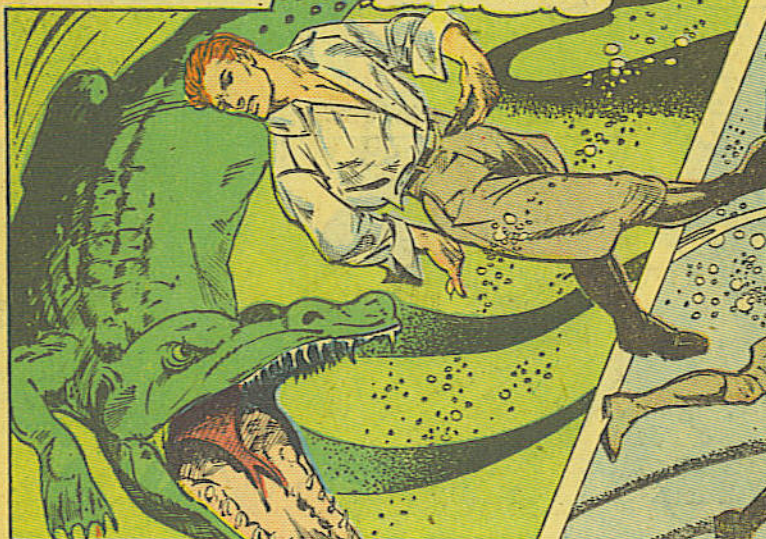
DON PLUNGES IN, UNAWARE OF THE PERIL LURKING BENEATH THE WATER. . .



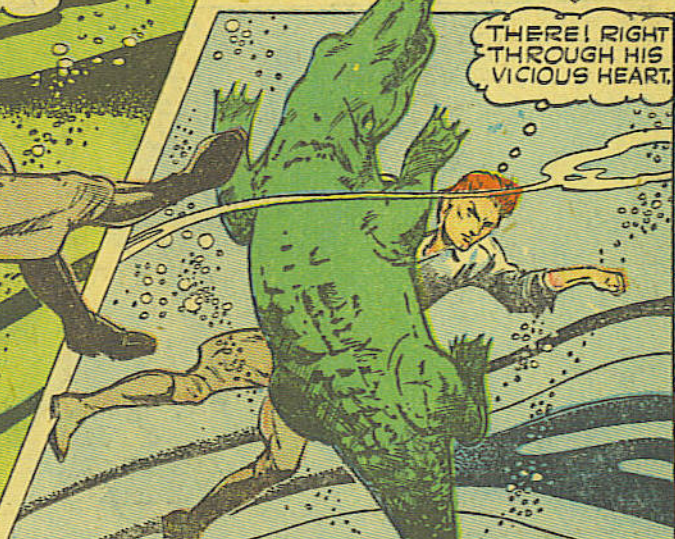
CROCO-
DILE!



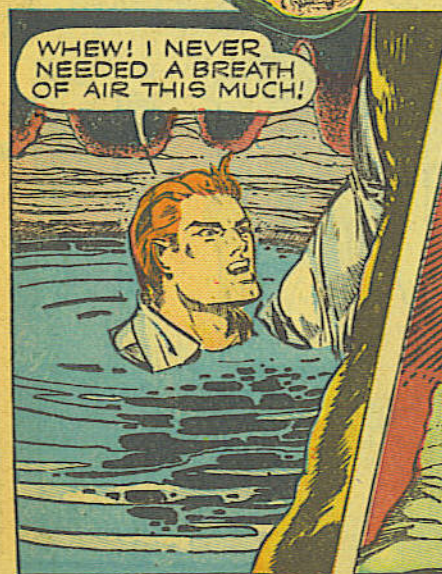
HE MISSED
ME THAT TIME.
HOPE I CAN
FIGHT HIM
OFF WITH
THIS SHARP
STONE!



IF I CAN FLIP
OVER HIM...

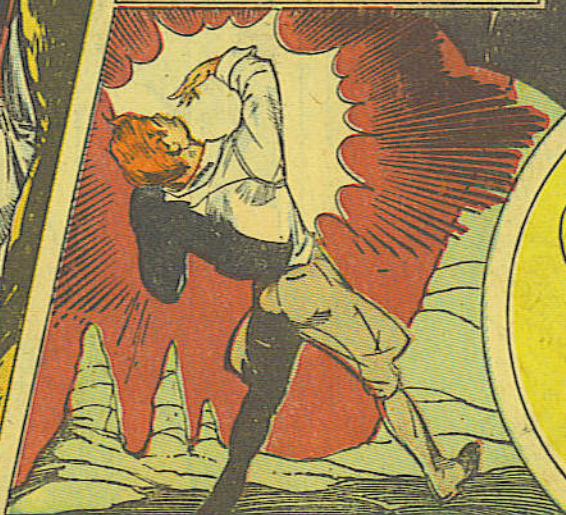


THERE! RIGHT
THROUGH HIS
VICIOUS HEART.



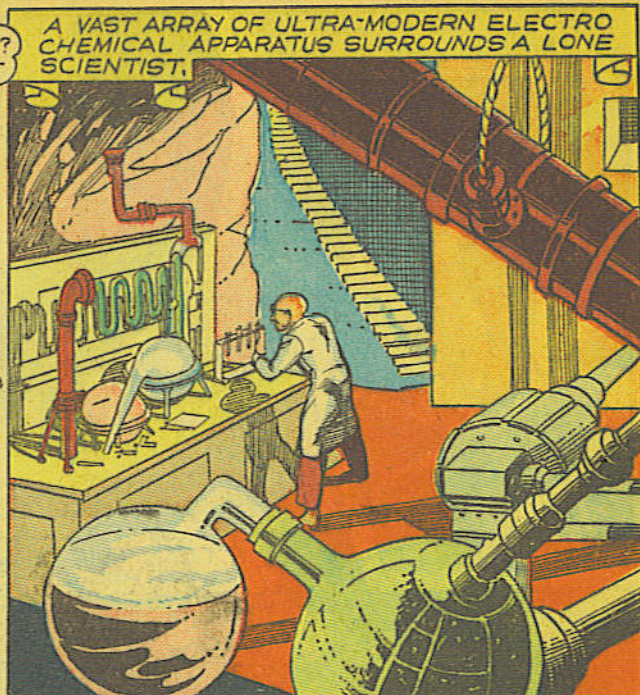
WHEW! I NEVER
NEEDED A BREATH
OF AIR THIS MUCH!

SUDDENLY, A HAIRY SHAPE
SMASHES INTO DON'S HEAD.



GIANT BATS!
THIS CAVE
SURE IS A
CREEPY JOINT!



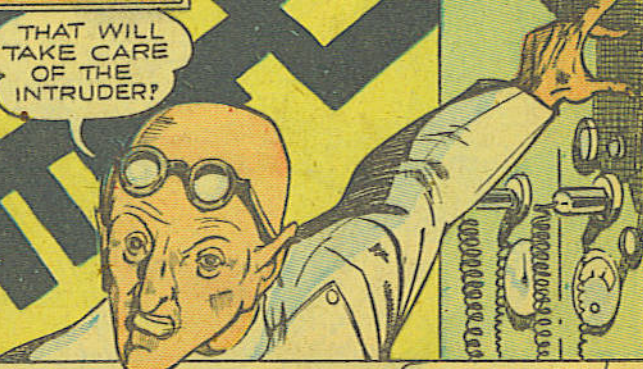


DON FAILS TO SEE AN ELECTRIC EYE ALARM UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE.



WHIRLING AROUND, THE SCIENTIST TOUCHES A BUTTON..

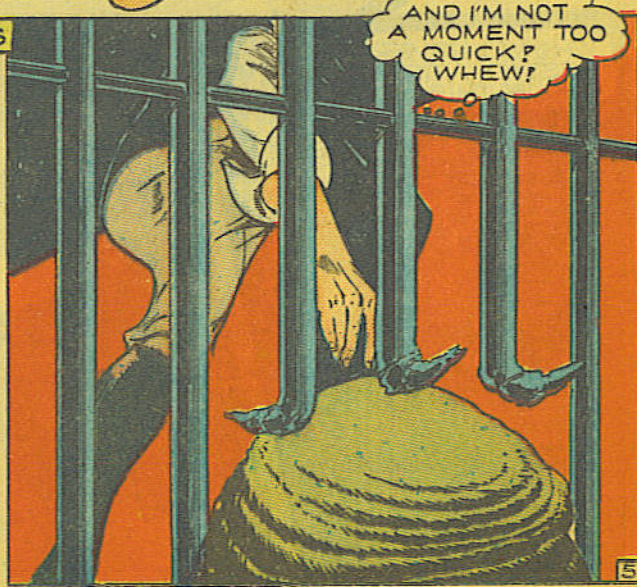
THAT WILL TAKE CARE OF THE INTRUDER!

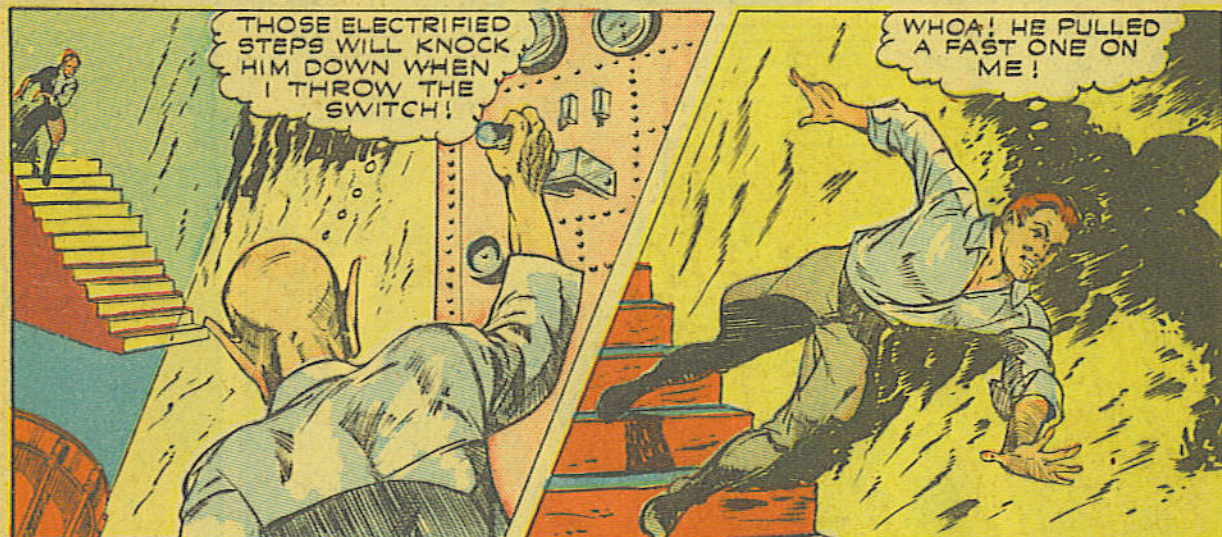


ON BOTH SIDES OF THE TUNNEL, STEEL SPIKES MOVE DOWN TO TRAP DON..



AND I'M NOT A MOMENT TOO QUICK? WHEW!





SUDDENLY, A LOUDSPEAKER
BLARES OUT A COMMAND
FROM THE ARMY AIRFIELD.

DON'S EYES
OPEN SLOWLY.

A WHOLE SECTION OF THE CAVE WALL
SWINGS UP, REVEALING A LARGE WIN-
DOW LOOKING OUT TO THE WOODS.

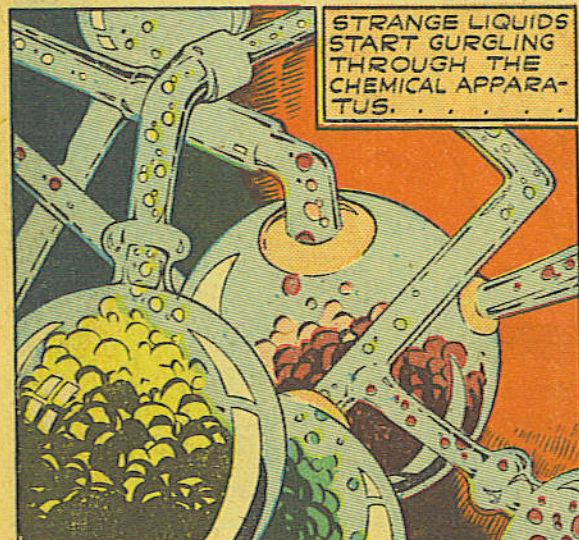
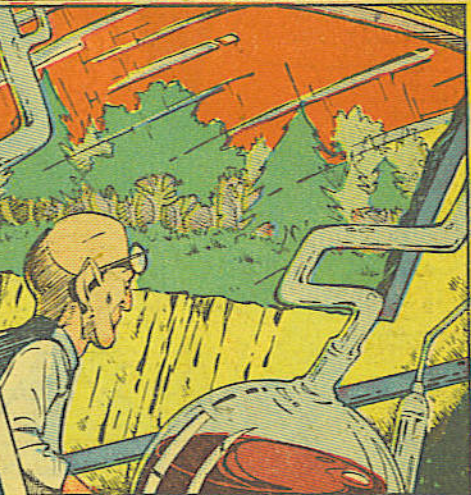


SQUADRON EIGHT...
PREPARE TO TAKE OFF.
FOLLOW ROUTE
SEVENTEEN...
SEARCH FOR DON GLORY!

AHA! ANOTHER
FLIGHT COMING
THIS WAY! I'LL
HAVE TO LEAVE
THIS REDHEAD
TILL LATER!



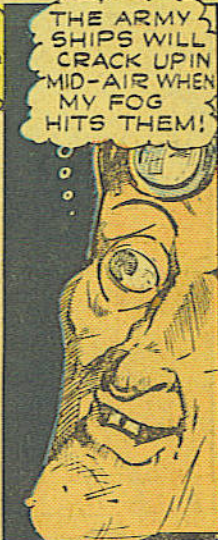
HMM! I'M
BEING LET
IN ON A
SECRET!



STRANGE LIQUIDS
START GURLING
THROUGH THE
CHEMICAL APPARA-
TUS.



HIDDEN PIPES LEAD TO
THE WOODS, WHERE SMOKE
POTS BELCH FORTH A CLOUD
LIKE VAPOR.

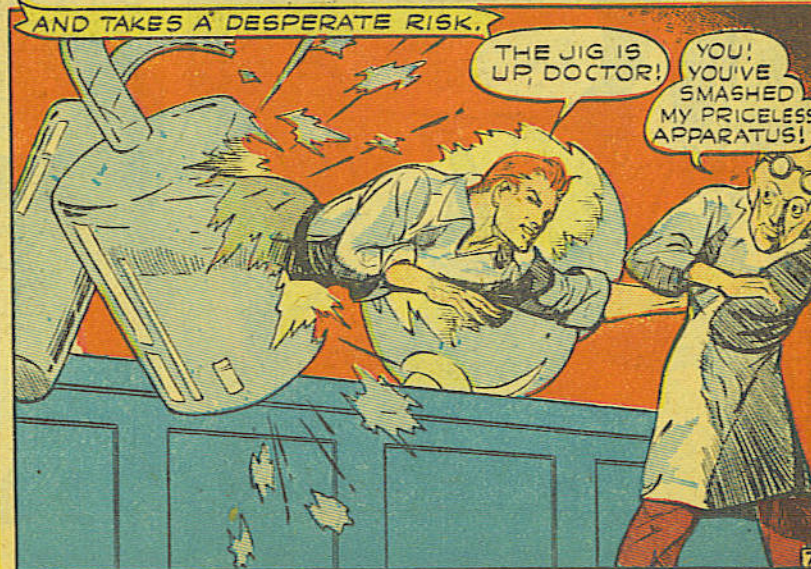


THE ARMY
SHIPS WILL
CRACK UP IN
MID-AIR WHEN
MY FOG
HITS THEM!



PAINFULLY, DON PULLS
HIMSELF UP

EIGHT IS A PURSUIT
SQUADRON! THE
PILOTS WILL BE
TRAPPED IN
THEIR COCK-
PITS WITH NO
CHANCE OF
BAILING OUT!



AND TAKES A DESPERATE RISK.

THE JIG IS
UP, DOCTOR!

YOU!
YOU'VE
SMASHED
MY PRICELESS
APPARATUS!

DESPERATELY, THE CRAZED SCIENTIST CLAWS AT DON'S THROAT.

YOU MURDERIN' MANIAC?

I'LL KILL YOU!

MEANWHILE, THE SQUADRON REACHES THE SITE OF THE CLOUDS OF VAPOR.

SUFFICIENT CHEMICALS REMAIN TO DESTROY THE LEADING PLANE.

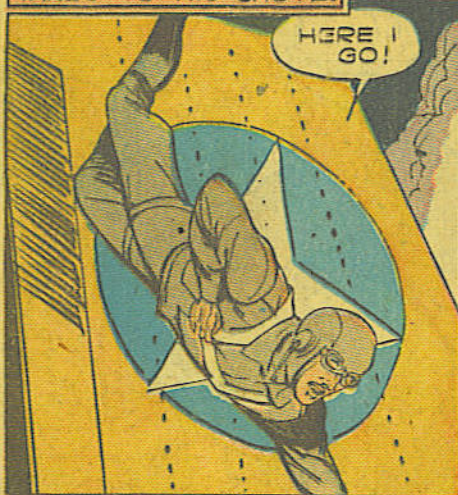
IT'S OUT OF CONTROL! I'VE GOT TO BAIL OUT!

BACK IN THE LAB, THE LIFE AND DEATH STRUGGLE IS STILL BEING WAGED.

FIND A CURE FOR THAT?

AND THAT?

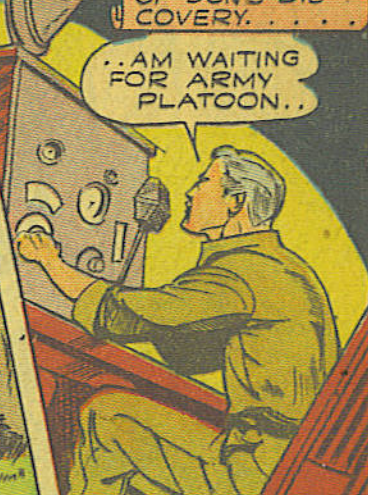
FIGHTING HIS WAY CLEAR OF THE DOOMED PLANE, THE PILOT TAKES TO HIS CHUTE.



AS THE FLIER SPIRALS EARTHWARD, DON WAITS TO GREET HIM.



THE ARMY IS THEN INFORMED OF DON'S DISCOVERY.



AND SEVERAL COMPANIES OF SOLDIERS SET OUT FOR THE CAVE. . . .



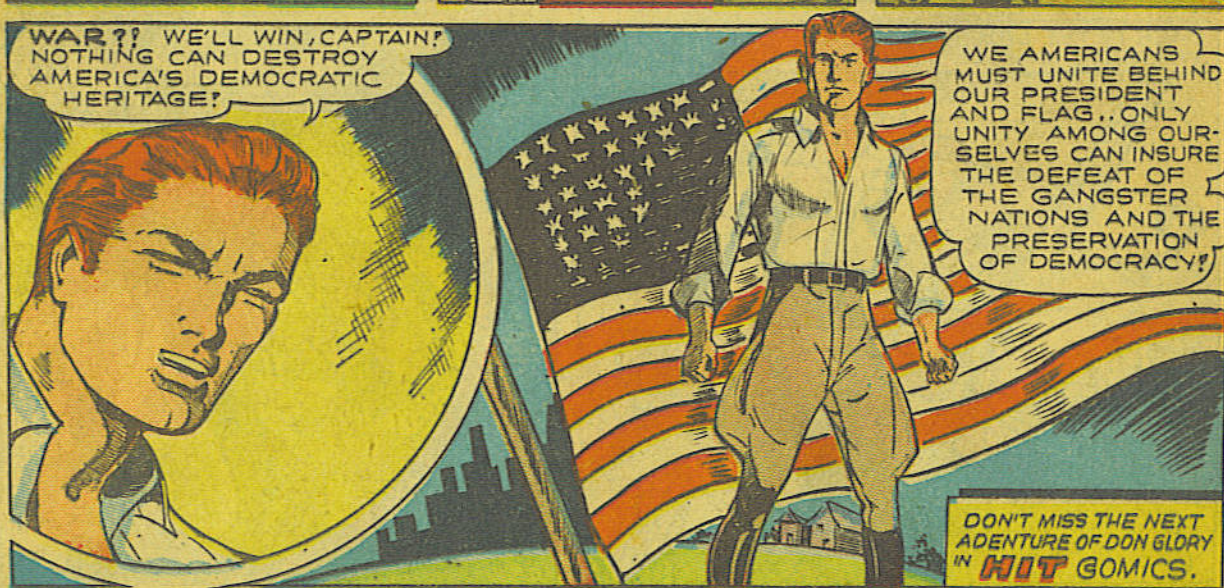
SEVERAL HOURS LATER, DON IS CONGRATULATED FOR HIS DISCOVERY. .



THE JAPS HAVE JUST DECLARED WAR ON US, AND HE WAS WORKING FOR THEM!



WAR?? WE'LL WIN, CAPTAIN! NOTHING CAN DESTROY AMERICA'S DEMOCRATIC HERITAGE?



DON'T MISS THE NEXT ADVENTURE OF DON GLORY IN **HIT** COMICS.



